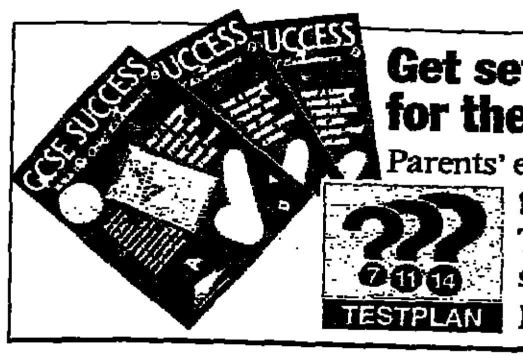
هكذا من الاحسن

THE TIMES

30p

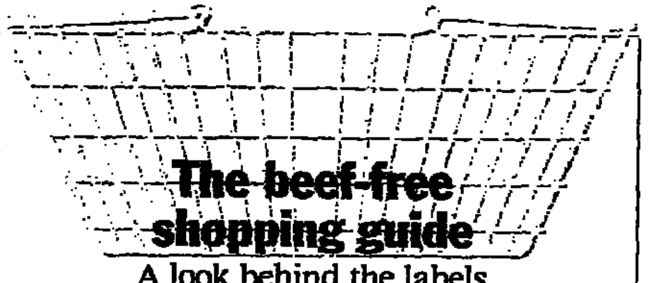
No. 65,538

WEDNESDAY MARCH 27 1996



Get set for the tests
Parents' essential guide
Today: science
PAGE 15

Fashion for fast women
Donna Karan, designer for those on the move
PAGE 16



The beef-free shopping guide
A look behind the labels
PAGE 11

Schmaltzing through the night
Nigella Lawson braves the Oscars ceremony
PAGE 17

Farmers urge £700 million cull of old cattle to win back public confidence in safey of beef

Cabinet may accept call for slaughter

By Philip Webster, Michael Hornsby and Charles Bremner

THE Government was last night seriously considering the destruction of thousands of cattle as the only way to restore confidence in the beef industry as European veterinary officials upheld their plans for a world ban.

For the first time, the Prime Minister accepted that he might have to go beyond the advice of its scientific experts and embrace the National Farmers' Union scheme for the destruction of older cows.

That would involve the incineration of more than 800,000 animals a year, mainly from dairy herds, and cost up to £700 million in compensation. Some 16,000 a week would be culled as they reached the end of their working life and their carcasses destroyed rather than used for food. Existing incineration facilities would be unable to handle such a volume, however, and new plant would have to be built.

The NFU put forward its plan — which has the support of the Country Landowners Association and leaders of the food industry — as farmers appeared to accept that there was no chance of controlling the catastrophe by reassuring consumers. But Tory MPs were privately critical yesterday , saying that one day the Government was proposing a cull, the next suggesting it would do nothing more, and then apparently reviving the slaughter option.

John Major said that the proposal would be carefully examined, but he blamed Labour for fanning public hysteria and made plain that if the cattle were killed it would be because the Government had been forced to accept that confidence could not be restored by the "sensible practical" measures that had been taken.

In a vicious Commons clash with Tony Blair, he said that Mr Blair, Harriet Harman and Paddy Ashdown were to blame for destroying confidence after the Labour leader had accused the Government of "mind-boggling incompetence" in handling the crisis.

Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, was also given a rough ride over the Government's approach yesterday when mothers called a BBC Radio phone-in to accuse him of "appalling" complacency and a "frightening lack of concern" for public safety.

The selective slaughter scheme put to Mr Major, Mr Blair and Mr Ashdown by the NFU president David Naish yesterday is the option that would be the least disruptive to farmers while still being radical enough to stand a chance of impressing consumers and opinion abroad.

It is estimated that up to 16,000 cows are slaughtered for food every week, most of them dairy cows up to seven years old. The carcasses are mainly used to make cheaper meat products and have also been a big element in the export trade with France.

Older dairy cows are the most likely to have eaten the scrapie-infected feed that is thought to have caused "mad cow" disease before it was banned in 1988.

Sir David said: "The events of the past week show that we have gone beyond the stage of relying solely on science. The Government must take immediate action because the steps announced so far have failed to restore confidence among consumers and the entire food chain."

Ian Gardiner, the NFU's director of policy, said: "We would be looking for compensation of around £800 an animal. We recognise that there would be real problems in disposing of this many animals. We have no market at all for that beef now because it is not on the menu anywhere and not in shops."

Ewen Cameron, the dairy farming president of the CLA, said: "I really do believe this would help to put the beef industry back on its feet because we would be removing any risk of BSE getting into the food chain. Most beef animals are slaughtered at no more than two years and no animal that young has ever developed BSE."

If the Government goes for the scheme, it will have to decide the minimum age of cows to be taken out of the food chain, whether to distinguish between BSE-free herds and others, and whether there might be a limited all-herd slaughter policy for the most affected herds.

There would also probably be an argument over the level of compensation. The NFU's figure of £800 per animal is about £300 more than the average market price for old cows before the crisis broke last week.

The need for action has become more urgent as the European Commission is almost certain to impose a world ban on British beef exports today. The Commission's veterinary committee yesterday rebuffed British efforts to avert the move, which officials described as a pointless exercise undertaken at Mr Major's insistence.

One French official said: "Why doesn't this fellow deal with the problem he's got instead of trying to unload the blame on Europe. Others said that that Sir Kenneth Calman, the Chief Medical Officer, and Keith Meldrum, the Chief Veterinary Officer, had had nothing new to say.

The ban will be formally announced after a vote among commissioners. The result is a foregone conclusion as only Sir Leon Brittan and possibly Neil Kinnock are likely to oppose the embargo.

INSIDE

Matthew Parris 2
Peter Riddell 10
Shoppers' guide 11
Simon Jenkins 18
Leading article 19
Letters 19

ANDRE CAMARA

Stephen Dorrell yesterday with cow motif cards from staff for his 44th birthday on Monday. The Health Secretary tells *The Times* today of the events that led to a government decision "to trust the people, give them the facts and leave them to draw mature conclusions". Interview, page 10

Mafia may have sold herd infected with BSE

From Richard Owen in Rome

ITALIAN complacency over mad cow disease turned to alarm yesterday as another case of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease surfaced and there were fears that the Mafia may have sold infected beef.

The Government sent 5,000 health inspectors to border points and processing plants to look for signs of bovine spongiform encephalopathy in meat and live cattle.

Police impounded British beef in Sardinia and Turin, and gave a warning that smugglers with possible Mafia links were trading British beef under "false health certificates" from Ireland.

Italy was one of the last EU countries to ban British beef last week. The press and media have bombarded Italians with reassuring statements from the authorities and experts, with the Ministry of Health stating repeatedly that there was "no cause for alarm". The Ministry of Agriculture said that only "negligible quantities" of beef were imported from Britain, and there was "no risk to the Italian consumer".

But it emerged yesterday that Francesco Melillo, 57, from Avellino, near Naples, had died in January from CJD after visiting friends on Italy's Adriatic coast. The death follows two publicly acknowledged cases of BSE in Sicily.

The *Corriere della Sera* newspaper, reporting growing public "doubts and anxieties" over meat, milk and cheese products, said that Italy had been "under-dramatising" the crisis.

In Sicily, concern rose after it was revealed that most of a herd in which BSE had been discovered had been spirited away by the Mafia and may have been slaughtered for food.

Sources said that two cows suffering from BSE had been killed last year at Castellammare del Golfo, on the west coast of the island, on a farm belonging to Agostino Lentini.

He is now in prison for alleged Mafia activities. When inspectors went to his farm, the remaining cattle had disappeared.

"There is a real risk of contamination," said a veterinary surgeon at the Institute for Animal Diseases in Palermo. "We have to step up controls, since many Sicilian farmers are not exactly keen to reveal the origin of their livestock."

"Trust you to moo at the Godfather"

Birds Eye stops making burgers

BIRDS EYE has stopped making beefburgers at its factory in Lowestoft, Suffolk, and moved the 1,000 workers to other production lines. But the frozen food company said that it would continue to sell its full range of products.

At the same time, the boycott of beef products grew as Virgin Atlantic Airways removed beef from its in-flight menus. British Airways also suspended beef from its children's menu and will no longer offer it as a single choice.

Even the Ministry of Defence is advising military caterers that they should offer an alternative in barracks and Naafis.

Cattle markets throughout Britain were almost empty again yesterday as farmers stayed at home and beef prices continued to plunge. The number of cattle being traded was no more than 2 per cent of the level last Tuesday.

Most abattoirs are refusing to accept stock because they cannot find any markets for the carcasses and farmers are holding their cattle back in the hope that demand for beef may recover.

In supermarkets, sales of turkey, pork, lamb and chicken were forging ahead.

Hunting for Perfection~

A finely balanced, deliciously smooth ale, with a subtle blend of flavours. A fitting reward for all who pursue perfection.

Catch one at your local.

Brewed by Morland of Abingdon.
Est'd. 1711.

John Snagge dies aged 91

John Snagge, the voice of boat race radio commentaries for almost 50 years, has died aged 91. The broadcaster achieved fame during the Second World War when the BBC decided that its announcers should identify themselves to the public to avoid confusion with propaganda broadcasts from Germany.

Obituary, page 21

Buying The Times overseas
Austria Sch 40; Belgium B Frs 80; Canada $3.25; Canaries Pes 325; Cyprus C£1.20; Denmark Dkr 18.00; Finland Fmk 17.00; France F 14.00; Germany DM 4.50; Gibraltar 90p; Greece Dr 500; Netherlands Fl 4.50; Irish Republic 45p; Italy L 4.500; Luxembourg Lf 60; Madeira Esc 350; Malta 45c; Morocco Dir 27.00; Norway Kr 20.00; Portugal con Esc 350; Spain Pts 325; Sweden Skr 19.50; Switzerland S Frs 4.00; Tunisia Din 2.200; USA $3.50.

The Times on the Internet
http://www.the-times.co.uk

British charity worker is kidnapped in Cambodia

By Tom Walker, Leyla Linton and Carol Midgley

CHRISTOPHER HOWES, a British charity worker kidnapped at gunpoint in northwest Cambodia, is believed to have been seized by a breakaway Khmer Rouge faction.

Mr Howes, 36, was taken hostage with up to 27 other volunteers as he supervised mine clearing near Siem Reap. By last night he and his Cambodian interpreter were the only two who had not escaped or been released.

The kidnappers drove their captives north into Varin district, towards Khmer Rouge strongholds along the Thai border. Radio messages intercepted by the United Nations World Food Programme suggested that a ransom of £260 was being demanded for each of the Cambodian hostages then still held.

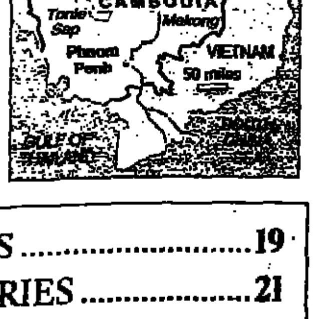
As Mr Howe's family awaited news at their home in Bristol last night, they were aware that all the Britons kidnapped by the Khmer Rouge in the past two years had been killed. Dominic Chappell, Tina Dominy and Mark Slater were all executed by the group in two separate incidents in 1994, along with two Australians and a Frenchman. The only foreigner to survive a Khmer Rouge kidnap in the past two years is Melissa Himes, who worked for an American group.

Last night the Cambodian Government was negotiating for the release of Mr Howes and his assistant, Ieng Mouly, a Cambodian official, said that 12 hostages had escaped and ten had been released.

Mr Howes, who is unmarried, had been working as a mines specialist for the United Kingdom-based Mines Advisory Group, a non-political organisation that has been active in Cambodia since 1992. He helped to train civilians in the detection and destruction of anti-personnel mines and had previously worked in Northern Iraq.

Archie McCarron, the group's programme director for Cambodia, said in Phnomh Penh, the capital, last night: "It seems they were taken by a roving band of deserters. We don't know anything about who they are."

In Britain, Roger Briottet, director of the charity, said: "We are very concerned for the welfare of our staff and are hopeful of an early release. We would like to affirm that our de-mining operation in Cambodia will continue."



Exam answers are put on Internet

By John O'Leary, Education Editor

CYBER cheating came to Britain yesterday when up to 20,000 candidates for Scotland's most challenging school mathematics examination discovered that they could read some answers on the Internet.

An unknown person has already solved problems accounting for 10 per cent of the marks in the Higher Grade examination, which is used for university entrance, and posted the answers on the global computer network. The solutions are for a coursework section, which allows pupils ten days to investigate topics away from the pressure of the examination hall.

The Scottish Examination Board last night resisted pressure to scrap the questions, which were unpopular with critics who claimed that parents did much of the work.

A board spokesman insisted that the answers alone would not be enough to satisfy examiners. But teachers' leaders said that inaction would amount to a "cheat's charter for the rich". Those with computers would enjoy a clear advantage over colleagues from poorer homes.

Fred Forrester, deputy general secretary of the Educational Institute of Scotland, said: "We will never know how many pupils read the answers. Nobody wants to get rid of these practical and investigative elements, but we are being overtaken by new technology and I do not see any alternative to awarding all this year's marks for the conventional examination."

The board said project work had been developed to test skills that could not be demonstrated in a traditional examination. "Each candidate has to produce a solution to the investigation under supervised conditions without the use of any notes, so candidates who have not properly understood the work involved would be unable to produce a satisfactory answer."

TV & RADIO 46, 47
WEATHER 24

LETTERS 19
OBITUARIES 21
SIMON JENKINS 18

ARTS 37-39
CHESS & BRIDGE 44
COURT & SOCIAL 20

MEDIA & MARKETING 23
FASHION 16

Countryside ramblings bring out the unseen beast in Tony Blair

MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

A brave attempt by Robert Wareing (*Lab, Liverpool W Derby*) to interest the nation in lingering deaths through asbestosis failed at Prime Minister's Questions yesterday. Poor lamb: does he not understand? Until further notice, death by mad cow disease is the only permissible topic of parliamentary discourse. All other deaths are of no account, all other diseases trivial. Gun laws? That was last week. Is China at war with Taiwan yet? Sorry, our attention slipped.

It is just possible that if the *Second Coming were to occur* today, or Armageddon tomorrow, an MP might put down a Written Question. It is conceivable that if a meteor the size of Belgium were reported to be in imminent danger of slamming into the heart of London, some misguided backbencher might suppose this interesting enough to raise with the PM. Otherwise, MPs who know where their party advantage lies are best employed polishing sound bites on encephalopathy.

Foremost among these is *Tony Blair. With Her Majesty's* Opposition roaring in support behind him, the Labour leader scored a decisive victory in politics if not in logic yesterday by demanding that John Major quantify the unquantifiable. Major's failure to do so, quivered Blair in his churchiest stage tenor, amounted to "mind-boggling incompetence".

"Hear, hear!" shouted the Opposition. MPs seem to think that if they shout "What is the risk? *What* is the *risk*?" loud enough, or demand "Is it *safe*? Yes or no?" with sufficient urgency, then the fact that nobody knows the answer to these questions will just dissolve in the face of their clamour.

Mr Major looked stumped for a means of *resisting it*. People often complain that MPs refuse to give a straight answer, but it would have been a brave and foolish PM who tendered an honest "I don't know" to the House of Commons yesterday.

So instead, Major tried to turn the tables on Blair and paint the Labour Party as the *villains of the piece. If our beef* industry were needlessly destroyed, he said, and panic triggered, we would know who to blame.

But the Prime Minister is whistling in the dark, and an undertone of exasperation in his voice yesterday suggested he knew it. The government benches, who support him to a man and woman over this, looked baffled and angry at *their inability to get their* counsel of hesitation across in the Chamber or to the nation.

Added to their practical *concern* about public alarm, it has come as something of a shock to the Parliamentary Conservative Party to discover how unscrupulous an instinct for the jugular Tony Blair possesses. Up until now it has been fashionable among them to represent him as out of his *depth*: possibly even well-meaning, but lightweight, a fresh-faced assemblage of vacuities posing as a leader, cruising for a bruising when the country finds him out.

Now they see his ruthlessness. The skill and speed with which he has exploited this crisis, the *sang-froid* with which (as they see it) he can contemplate even the slaughter of four million cattle for the achievement of a few extra points in the opinion polls, dismays them.

Mr Blair represents Sedgefield. Sheep graze there. Sheep are susceptible to scrapie. Blair has been photographed in a Barbour jacket patting cows elsewhere in Britain. *It is just possible that* a link can be established between Mr Blair personally and the outbreak of mad cow *disease. Short* of this (the Tories fear) all is lost.

Whitehall tries to stop publication of Scott documents

By Nigel Williamson, Whitehall correspondent

SIR RICHARD SCOTT is involved in a dispute with Whitehall over plans to publish thousands of confidential government documents which he examined in the course of his inquiry into arms-to-Iraq.

More than 12,000 official documents, referred to in the Scott report, are due to be published in full in May, probably on CD-Rom. Several senior civil servants are unhappy at confidential advice to *ministers from named officials* being made public.

Scott officials are at present in discussion with Whitehall departments over what should be published and how much should be excised. "The negotiations are very civilised but there are differences of opinion," a Whitehall source said.

Last week Sir Richard said in a lecture that he saw no evidence that Whitehall was about to change its traditional *culture of secrecy in the wake* of his report. He also attacked the Government's argument that advice from officials to ministers had to remain confidential in order to preserve civil service "candour".

A spokesman for Sir Richard said: "The judge made clear at the outset that he intended to publish as much material as possible. He is in discussion with various government departments but the final decision on what to publish is his."

The remit of Sir Richard's *inquiry left him with the final* say over what is published. The documents he plans to make public include confidential papers from the Cabinet Office, the Ministry of Defence, the Foreign Office, the Department of Trade and Industry and Customs and Excise. Letters between ministers, including the correspondence over public interest immmunity certificates between Sir Nicholas Lyell, the *Attorney-General, and Mich*ael Heseltine will be published. The briefings given by senior civil servants to John Major on arms-to-Iraq when he first became Foreign Secretary in July 1989 are also on the list of documents Sir *Richard intends to make* public.

However, material provided by the intelligence services to the inquiry will not be *published. Sir Richard's* favoured form of publication is CD-Rom, although this still requires the permission of Parliament. The documents will be presented to the House of Commons, as was the Scott report, but MPs will need to agree to accept them in elec*tronic, rather than a more* traditional. format.

The five volumes of the Scott report quote from many of the papers to be published and the release of the full documents is unlikely to unearth fresh areas of controversy. But the documents will provide historians and political scientists with a treasure trove of material exposing the inner workings of government.

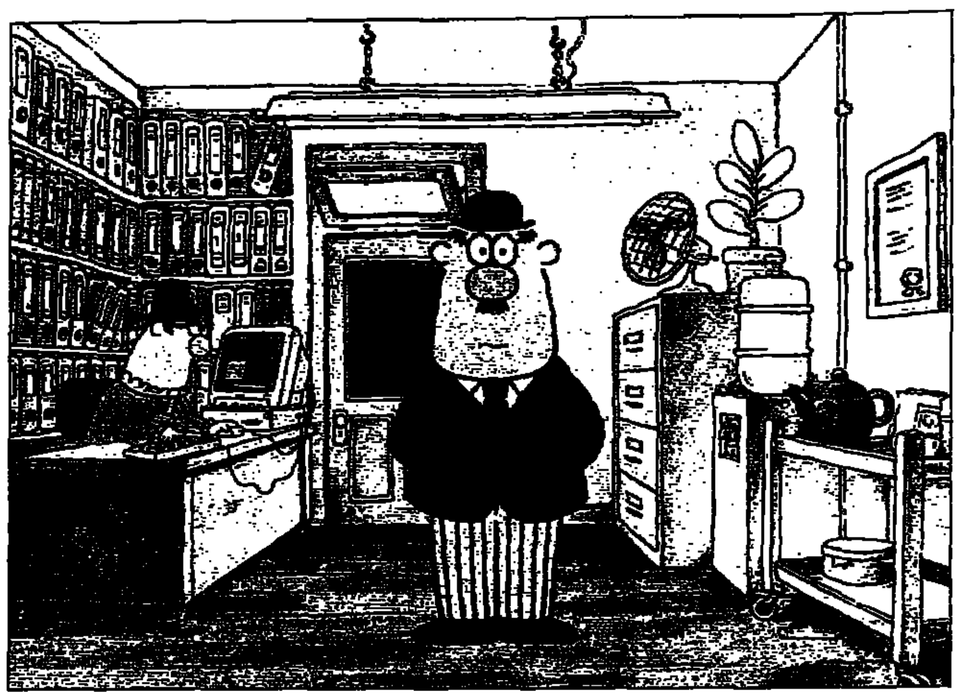
Sir Richard was engaged in *an earlier exchange with Sir* Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, over what the judge saw as Whitehall procrastination over supplying documents that he had requested.

After publication of the background documents in May, Sir Richard's team of about a dozen officials will be dispersed. Most will return to jobs in Whitehall. Christopher Muttukumaru, the inquiry's secretary, will take up an appointment as a senior legal adviser at the Ministry of Defence.

Tories support data freedom

JOHN MAJOR will come under fresh pressure from MPs today to introduce a Freedom of Information Act. The Tory-dominated Select Committee on the Ombudsman will recommend that Parliament enshrines for citizens a statutory right to official information.

Demands for a Freedom of Information Act have grown in recent months after the Scott report revealed the extent of the culture of secrecy in Whitehall.



An Inland Revenue advertisement for Hector showing him in "sexist" attire

Hector the Inspector taxes patience of Revenue staff

By Nigel Williamson, Whitehall correspondent

TAX officers have taken umbrage at an advertising campaign which depicts them as humourless, old-fashioned "jobsworths" in bowler hats.

Inland Revenue television advertisements publicising the self-assessment scheme which feature Hector the Inspector are stereotyped, out of date and sexist, according to a Civil Service trade union. Hector, who also appears on Inland Revenue leaflets, is a bespectacled middle-aged man in pin-stripe trousers carrying a furled brolly and wearing a bowler hat. He recalls no one so much as Captain Mainwaring of *Dad's Army*.

Graham Steel, of the Public Services Tax and Commerce Union, said: "Inland Revenue workers are mostly young, female, low-paid and worried about their job security. They are not the sort who will be swaggering about town in a bowler hat."

Mr Steel, whose union represents 90 per cent of Inland Revenue employees, said that the figure belonged to a prewar era. "We are fed up and some find it downright offensive."

In one of the television advertisements, Hector is shown waking up in the middle of the night to file expense sheets in his bedside cabinet. The Inland Revenue said: "We wanted an image which would capture people's attention. We did a lot of research about how to break through barriers and this is the one that seemed to work."

But Mr Steel said only a handful of civil servants looked like Hector. "Our workforce, especially those in the front line, have to be dynamic in their approach."

The Inland Revenue said Hector was fast becoming a heroic figure. "So far a quarter of a million people have phoned our hotline," said a spokeswoman. But she conceded that Hector was not an accurate reflection of most staff. "No, I don't wear a bowler hat and a pin-striped suit," she said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

RUC 'should drop pledge to Queen'

The RUC should drop its oath of allegiance to the Queen and implement a series of modest reforms to make the force more acceptable to Roman Catholics, the Northern Ireland Police Authority said yesterday. In a report on the future of policing, the authority said the measures were necessary to tackle the huge imbalance between Protestants and Roman Catholics in the RUC. Catholics account for just 8 per cent of the force.

The report recommends that the 200-word oath, which dates back to 1868, should be replaced with a short oath sworn by police officers in Scotland which makes no mention of the Queen. The practice of flying the Union flag over police stations should be examined and the suffix "Northern Ireland's Police Service" should be added to the name of the force.

Tory revolt on divorce

Rebel Tory MPs are plotting a fresh revolt over the proposed reform of divorce law in the Commons next week. They plan to move amendments to bring back the concept of fault and reintroduce existing time limits. So-called "quickie" divorces would be stopped and no marriage would be ended in less than a year. Separated couples could divorce after two years by consent and after five years without consent.

School governors sought

Robin Squire, the Education Under Secretary, launched a £445,000 campaign to attract 60,000 school governors but denied there was a crisis in recruitment. The campaign comes amid concern that many, particularly parent governors, are turning their back on running schools. Last year's cash squeeze cost at least 5,000 teaching jobs and many governors found sacking teachers traumatic.

Bridge work too far

A programme to strengthen road bridges to carry heavier lorries in line with new European regulations is behind schedule. The National Audit Office reports that half way through the Government's £2.2 billion, 15-year programme to upgrade almost 15,000 bridges, only a third of the work has been completed. *Failure to meet EU deadlines could result in* heavy lorries being banned from many bridges.

20p trial cost £130,000

A teenager charged with stealing 20p was cleared yesterday after two Old Bailey trials costing £130,000. Michael Salmon, 19, was found not guilty of robbing Alexander Wright-Manning after a first jury failed to reach a verdict. Mr Wright-Manning, 18, claimed he was told he would be stabbed and handed over a 20p coin. Salmon, from Manor Park, east London, said he had been lent it for a phone call.

Dunblane girl home

Amie Adam, left, shot in the thigh when Thomas Hamilton opened fire on her class at Dunblane Primary School two weeks ago today, killing 16 of her classmates, has left Yorkhill hospital in Glasgow. Amy Hutchison and Mark Mullan remain in hospital. Eirwen Bengough, the school's GP, appeals to doctors in this month's *BMA News Review* not to act as referees for handgun licence applications.

Irish bomber jailed

James Ginley, 41, who spent 14 years on the run in the United States, was jailed for seven years by the Special Criminal Court in Dublin yesterday for his part in a planned cross-border bomb attack in 1981. Ginley, from Monaghan town, surrendered to police and was arrested on a warrant issued in 1982. He admitted possessing an explosive substance at Shankill, Co Monaghan on October 25, 1981.

Scratching for Britain

The British Olympic Association has launched a charity scratchcard with a top prize of £100,000 in an attempt to raise £1 million to help to fund British athletes taking part in this year's games in Atlanta. The association will receive 20p from each £1 card sold. The card is being operated by Scratch & Win, which has run ten scratchcards for leading charities, including the Royal British Legion.

Asbestos company challenges judgment

By A Staff Reporter

ONE of Britain's biggest engineering companies claimed in the Court of Appeal yesterday *that it was not liable* to pay compensation to people who developed cancer from breathing asbestos dust.

T&N is trying to overturn a High Court judge's decision in October last year that the firm must pay damages to two people who as children played *in the drifts of white dust* which blanketed the roads around their homes. It was the first time that a court had awarded compensation for asbestos claims made by anyone other than those working in a plant.

William Woodward, QC, for T&N, said one of the victims, Arthur Margereson, who died from mesothelioma,had played around the factory. JW Roberts in Armley, Leeds, for *eight years before the dangers* were realised and factory owners became liable to protect people from the risks.

Mr Woodward said that in the Leeds judgment, Mr Justice Holland had failed to define where the area of risk lay outside the factory walls.

Evelyn Margereson, 70, was awarded £50,000 for the death five years ago of her husband.

June Hancock, 60, who was awarded £65,000, is also suffering from the same cancer of the chest lining, was in court yesterday to hear the company's attempt to overturn the ruling, which became a test case for up to 40 other cases in the Armley area and possibly 500 nationally.

She began her action soon after her mother died from the same illness and has been warned by doctors she has only months to live.

T&N, which was called Turner and Newall until 1987, has already paid £250 million worldwide to people directly affected by asbestosis and other related diseases. Mrs Hancock played among the dust that drifted from JW Roberts, a *factory making* insulating mattresses for boilers, in the late 1930s and 1940s.

The hearing continues.

Railtrack sell-off cheap and cheerless

By Jonathan Prynn
Transport correspondent

MILLIONS of small investors encouraged to buy into the giant privatisations of the 1980s have been sidelined in favour of more sophisticated shareholders in the latest government sell-off.

The glitzy hype of the British Gas, electricity and water industry sales have been replaced by grey images of *tunnels, rail lines, bridges and* stations in the television and newspaper advertisements for Railtrack, which began running last night.

The £5 million campaign, the cheapest privatisation advertising project to date, has been kept low-key because of the acute political sensitivity of rail privatisation and because Government advisers believe that small investors who bought privatisation shares in the 1980s will not be attracted to the sale.

Instead, they are relying on more sophisticated private investors and Britain's one million-strong fraternity of train enthusiasts.

The campaign, devised by the agency WCRS, features *slogans such as* "From the modest to the spectacular. Railtrack owns Britain's rail bridges" and "From the long to the short, Railtrack owns Britain's rail tunnels" superimposed on trainless railway landscapes.

Other recent privatisation campaigns have relied on "characters" such as Inspector Morose, played by Mel Smith, who helped sell the third tranche *of British Telecom* shares. Volcanoes, earthquakes and lightning storms accompanied the advertisements for last year's sale of shares in the electricity generators.

☐ Paddy Ashdown stepped up the pressure on Labour yesterday over its pledge to restore Railtrack to public ownership by committing the Liberal Democrats to taking a 51 per *cent controlling* stake in the company.

Sell-off timetable, page 25

From just £30 for a full 12 months' cover, no one offers you more security on the road than the RAC:

■ RAC Rescue covers you, not your car. So now you can call on us whenever you need fast roadside assistance, even when you're simply a passenger in someone else's car.

■ Roadside Rescue. In more than 8 out of 10 cases, our patrols can fix cars on the spot. Otherwise, they'll tow you to a nearby garage, free of charge.

■ Accident Service. A replacement car, free legal advice, plus we'll deal with your insurers.

■ Theft and Vandalism Cover. If your car's stolen or can't be driven because of vandalism, we'll remove it to a nearby garage or secure area.

■ Battery Assist. A new battery on the spot.

Whatever service you use, callouts and our labour are free – you only pay for parts.

You can also tailor your cover to meet your needs, with the option to take out Joint and Family Cover or add our 'At Home' service.

Don't wait until you break down. Find out how to join the RAC today.

PHONE FREE TODAY ON
0800 029 029
OR INTERNET
http://www.rac.co.uk/

AND QUOTE: SS2026/3/XX

FREE
1996 RAC ROAD ATLAS
RRP £8.99
When you join the RAC today

YES – I want to join the RAC.
Please tell me how I can join from just £30*

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Address

Postcode

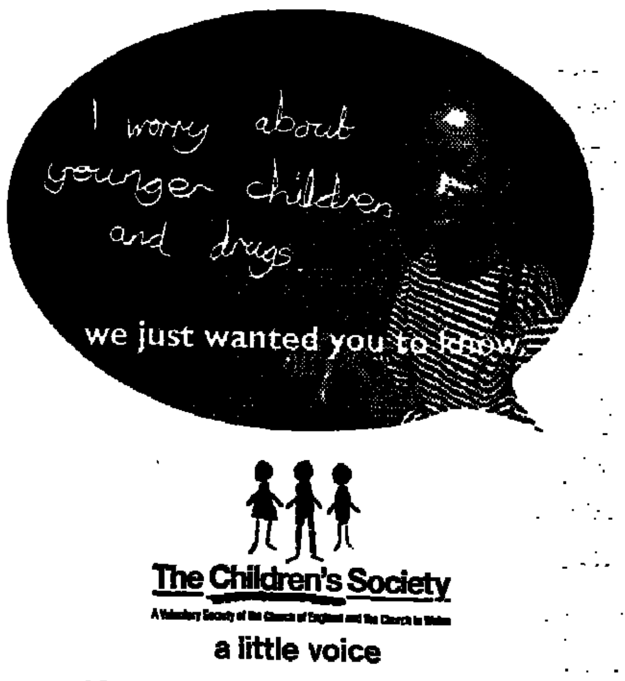
Telephone

Send to: RAC Rescue, FREEPOST, Bristol BS38 7AU. (No stamp needed.)

*Rescue costs £30 if you pay by Continuous Credit Card Authority or Direct Debit. Cash enrolment price is £41 and discount applies to your first year membership only. All prices include an enrolment fee. Phone lines open Monday – Friday 8am – 8pm, Saturday 9am – 5pm, Sunday 10am – 4pm

ST0004/SS2025/3/XX

RAC



I worry about younger children and drugs.
we just wanted you to know

The Children's Society
A Voluntary Society of the Church of England and the Church in Wales
a little voice
You can help. Call 0345 55 77 55
Charity Reg. No 221124. Local rates apply

هكذا من الاصل

Killer 'knifed and shot Britons in Australian forest'

BY ROGER MAYNARD
IN SYDNEY

Milat: may have used sword to chop off head

A CAVALRY sword, probably used to decapitate one of his victims, was among a mass of evidence linking an Australian roadworker to the murders of seven tourists, a court in Sydney was told yesterday.

On the second day of the "backpacker trial" of 51-year-old Ivan Milat for the murders of two Britons, three Germans and an Australian couple, a jury was told that they were "killings for killing's sake". Earlier the prosecution raised the possibility that more than one person might have been involved in the attacks.

The young victims were killed in a forest outside Sydney, using rifles and a large knife, Mark Tedeschi, QC, for the prosecution, said. He said a leather leash and other restraints were found near by and with some of the bodies, buried in makeshift graves in the forest.

As Mr Milat took notes, Mr Tedeschi added: "The seven backpackers were killed in ferocious and sustained attacks in which vastly more force was used than necessary to kill." Six of the backpackers were taken in pairs. Mr Tedeschi said the remains of two German tourists were found near what appeared to have been a "shooting gallery" in the forest where restraints and spent ammunition littered the ground.

One of them, Anja Habschied, had been decapitated, possibly with the cavalry sword found in the home of Mr Milat's mother, Mr Tedeschi said. Habschied's head, apparently severed from behind, was never found.

"The Crown does not know how many persons there were in the forest at the time of the alleged murders," he said, adding that the evidence linked Mr Milat with all seven backpackers. Mr Milat has denied murdering Joanne Walters, 22, from Maesteg, Mid Glamorgan, and Caroline Clarke, 21, from Surrey; Germans Miss Habschied, 20, Gabor Neugebauer, 21, and Simone Schmidl, 21; and Australians James Gibson and Deborah Everist, both 19, between September 1989 and November 1992.

Their bodies were unearthed from shallow bush graves in the Belanglo State Forest, near Sydney. Postmortem examinations showed all were killed using a gun or knife, Mr Tedeschi said.

The evidence also suggested sexual interference, he said, citing slashed clothing, and underwear and jeans which had been removed. Mr Milat was arrested in May 1994 at his home on the outskirts of Sydney where police found camping equipment belonging to the victims as well as parts of a rifle that fired ammunition found at the scenes of three killings, he added.

A rifle bolt found hidden in a wall cavity in the house was used at the scene of Miss Clarke's murder and near where the bodies of the Germans were dumped, he said. Blood-stained sash cord was also found in the garage and genetically tested against blood samples provided by Miss Clarke's parents.

Mr Tedeschi listed for more than an hour camping and personal equipment owned by the victims and found by police among the defendant's belongings. It included a photograph of his girlfriend, Challinder Hughes, wearing a green and white Benetton top which matched one worn by Miss Clarke.

Mr Tedeschi said that such had been the ferocity of the stabbing attack on Miss Walters that the knife cut several of her vertebrae and her spinal cord, which would have left her paralysed. A piece of fabric used to gag her was still tied around her head and her underwear was missing. Miss Clarke had ten bullet wounds to the head and stab wounds to the back and chest.

Mr Milat has also denied attempting to abduct Paul Onions, a British tourist, who allegedly escaped from him after he gave him a lift in January 1990 by throwing himself in front of an oncoming vehicle to summon help.

The case continues.

HELLO!
STUNNING NEW LOOK FOR THE DUCHESS OF YORK
DAZZLING EXCLUSIVE PHOTOS
HELLO!

Before and after: the Duchess of York in typical exuberant pose and showing off her new sophisticated image

New-look Duchess presents bold face

BY EMMA WILKINS

THE Duchess of York has posed for a series of glamorous photographs which claim to show that she has adopted a new look to accompany a new lifestyle.

The photographs, published by *Hello!*, were taken during a seven-hour fashion shoot at a Paris hotel in January. The deal with the magazine was arranged by the Duchess's friend, Princess Marie Esmeralda of Belgium, who is co-owner of a photographic agency called Press Impact Italia.

According to the magazine text, the Duchess has created a new look which combines "appealing fragility" with "obvious determination". A spokeswoman for the Duchess declined to say whether she had been paid for the photographs or would be donating any of the money to charity.

Earlier this year Buckingham Palace made it clear that the Queen was no longer prepared to offer financial support to her daughter-in-law, who had a bank overdraft of at least £1 million.

"The deal was put together by Princess Esmeralda," the Duchess's spokeswoman said. "It is still being discussed where the money is going. The Duchess has always given generously to charity in the past."

The Duchess's new lifestyle includes workouts five days a week with her personal trainer, which prepared her for a gruelling desert horse race in Qatar last week. "The Duchess is now incredibly fit. She has lost a considerable amount of weight. We think the photographs look stunning," the spokeswoman said.

The fashion photographer Andre Rau took the shots of the Duchess, who is shown in black trouser suits by Yves Saint Laurent. Mr Rau told the magazine: "She's really incredible. I hardly needed to tell her what to do.

"At first I thought she might be a bit aloof because of her title, but she wasn't like that at all. In no time at all, we were all calling her Sarah."

Blunders at Scrubs helped jailbreak

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A SERIES of security blunders surrounded the escape of two convicted murderers from Wormwood Scrubs, the first inmates to escape since the spy George Blake fled from the west London jail 27 years ago, a court was told yesterday.

An 18ft ladder used to scale the perimeter wall had been left out and the inmates who escaped had not had their movements properly logged, Knightsbridge Crown Court was told.

In addition, concerns had been raised about a security camera "blind spot" where a blow torch was used to cut a hole in the inner security fence. John Geeson, the prison's security governor, also said he suspected a maintenance man who had been in charge of the prisoners had helped them to get away.

Mr Geeson was giving evidence on the first day of the trial of Anthony Coughtrey, 23, and Gary Johns, 30. They deny false imprisonment but admit escaping last July.

The pair, who were serving life, and a third murderer had been detailed by Michael Goldsmith, the maintenance man, to paint a workshop floor next to the perimeter wall. Nicola Merrick, for the prosecution, said the two men overpowered Mr Goldsmith, tied him to an armchair and placed a pillowcase over his head. The third prisoner was tied up after he made it clear he wanted nothing to do with the escape. The trial continues.

Colleague guilty of assault for harassing woman

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A MAN who harassed a female collegue with letters and telephone calls for two years was found guilty of assault yesterday. Gaetano Constanza was convicted in spite of never attacking the woman with whom he had become infatuated after speaking on the telephone.

It is the second successful conviction of a stalker under existing criminal law within a month. Stalking is not an offence at present, but both the Government and the Labour Party are considering making it a specific crime.

Yesterday Louise Wilson, 23, was in the public gallery at Luton Crown Court as Judge Moss told Constanza that his offence was "exceedingly serious". Constanza was remanded in custody while psychiatric reports are prepared and warned that he faced a "lengthy custodial sentence".

Miss Wilson, of Round Green in Luton, said afterwards: "I am determined to get my life back to normal. I don't want to be a victim any longer, and now this case is over I can start to get my confidence back to do the things I used to enjoy".

Constanza, 31, from Luton, pleaded not guilty to assault occasioning actual bodily harm between 1993 and last year. The prosecution claimed his behaviour amounted to an assault by causing Miss Wilson to become ill. She was treated by her doctor for constant sickness and weight loss and when she was referred to a psychiatrist was diagnosed as being clinically depressed.

He bombarded her with 800 letters, telephone calls and bouquets of flowers after they spoke on the telephone at Vauxhall Motors, where they both worked. Constanza, an Italian, wanted to go out with Miss Wilson.

She told the jury that he had invaded her life with letters, silent telephone calls and visits to her home. As his obssession increased she became afraid to leave her home, stopped playing sport, attending a combat club and walking to the shops because he would be watching her movements.

The judge said the jury had to be satisfied that when Constanza carried out his campaign he intended to harm or was so reckless that he ignored the risk that Miss Wilson, a computer operator, could suffer mentally. They also had to agree that his actions directly caused her clinical depression as opposed to simple anxiety and stress.

Constanza admitted he had pursued Miss Wilson in the hope that she would go out with him. "I did not understand her reaction to me, I was acting in a decent manner. I let my emotions get away with me," he told the court.

Wildlife workers call hunt to kill fox

BY EMMA WILKINS

A WILDLIFE conservation trust was forced to seek help from a local hunt after a fox killed 25 birds at a waterfowl gardens.

The animal had made repeated raids on the Peakirk Waterfowl Gardens near Market Deeping, Lincolnshire, killing birds valued at £3,000 over six weeks. They included a rare Hawaiian goose and a flamingo. Bromley Clarke, the manager, was forced to overcome moral objections and called in the Fitzwilliam Hunt, which found and killed the fox on Sunday.

The waterfowl gardens were founded in 1957 by Sir Peter Scott and are home to 800 birds from 140 species. The Hawaiian goose was one of the most popular birds at the centre, which receives 50,000 visitors a year.

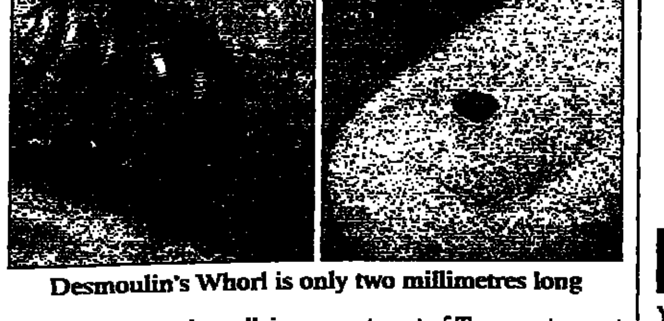
Mr Clarke said: "We are in the conservation business but we were at our wit's end to know what to do with this fox. We had tried every other humane way to get rid of it."

The Fitzwilliam Hunt did not turn out in costume but one of the joint masters with half a dozen hounds tracked the fox to its lair near the edge of the gardens.

☐ One of Britain's premier trout fishing waters, Blagdon Lake near Bristol, was closed after 250 fish were found dead. Pollution is being investigated as a possible cause.

Miniature snail slows pace of Newbury bypass work

BY TIM JONES



Desmoulin's Whorl is only two millimetres long

WORK on part of the Newbury bypass could be further delayed while conservation experts decide what to do with Desmoulin's Whorl, a snail no bigger than a breadcrumb.

Lawyers acting for Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, gave an undertaking in the High Court yesterday that they would consult English Nature about the endangered snail before moving in to clear the Rickety Bridge campsite. Demonstrators said that the snail study could delay work by weeks, although this was denied by Alan Odey, the Highways Agency project engineer.

The 2mm-long snail, *Verdigo moulinsiana*, is protected under the European Habitat Directive, which requires governments to protect the best sites as special areas of conservation. Desmoulin's Whorl may have been living in the area since the last Ice Age. Dr Martin Willing, who surveyed the site for Friends of the Earth, said the population was "the densest I have seen for more than 20 years".

Demonstrators opposing the nine-mile, £100 million bypass had hoped that the Government would be forced to designate the site as a special area of conservation.

Mr Justice Sedley said that the undertaking by the Department of Transport meant that it would discuss with English Nature the method and eviction and clearance of the site. The consultation would have the intention of ensuring that the snail population was not disturbed.

The judge dismissed the appeal by demonstrators that they had a right to be on the land to defend the snail because of the Government's failure to pass conservation orders.

MOVE IN ON OUR RANGE OF MORTGAGES.

Abbey National's range of mortgages means that you can move in on the one that's ideal for you. The choice for Home Movers includes:

- A Fixed Rate of 5.29% 5.5% APR until 31st May 1998 plus 2% Cashback of up to £4,000.
- A Variable Rate mortgage with a discount of 2% until 31st May 1998 combined with a 2% Cashback of up to £4,000.
- Or a 5% Cashback of up to £6,000 with our Standard Variable Rate mortgage.

If you are an existing customer moving home we also have special offers just for you.

For more information please talk to one of our experienced mortgage advisors at your nearest branch, or phone us free on **0800 100 800**, Monday to Friday 8.00am to 9.00pm or Saturday 8.00am to 4.00pm, quoting reference A383E.

ABBEY NATIONAL®
The habit of a lifetime

K72

MORTGAGES

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

For your security and to assist us in improving our service to you, we may record or monitor all calls to Abbey National Direct. The above 5.29% Fixed Rate or 2% Discount each combined with a 2% Cashback are available to customers moving home who do not currently have a mortgage with Abbey National and where their deposit exceeds 25%*. Other packages available depend on customer status, size of deposit and term over which the special offer relates. See in branch for details. For the above Fixed Rate there is a non refundable booking fee of £250 and completion must take place by 31.7.96. Completion for the above Discounted Variable Rate and 5% Cashback must take place by 27.9.96. All offers are subject to availability and may be withdrawn at any time. As a condition of this Fixed Rate, the mortgage must remain at the Standard Variable Rate for the period of 1.6.98 to 31.5.2001. If you switch from the Fixed Rate before the end of the fixed period or switch from the Standard Variable Rate that will apply after the fixed period, or make capital repayments (except normal monthly payments on a repayment mortgage) before 31.5.2001, a charge of 180 days gross interest at the fixed rate on the amount transferred or repaid will be payable. Discounted Variable Rate mortgage: Typical example for a 2% discount on our Standard Variable Rate currently 7.29% 7.7% APR until 31.5.98: a couple (male and female) who currently do not have a mortgage with Abbey National, non-smokers, aged 29, applying for an endowment mortgage of £40,000 on a purchase price of £60,000 secured over 25 years. 300 monthly interest payments of £156.49 net of tax relief, plus the final repayment of £40,000 capital. 300 monthly endowment premiums of £58.22. Total amount payable £93,269.05 includes £175 inspection fee, £50 deeds handling fee charged on redemption, £117.50 legal fees and accrued interest of £27 55 assuming completion on 27.9.96. Example calculated at 5.29% for the full mortgage term 5.4% APR. No account has been taken of any change in interest rates. In this example from 1.6.98 our Standard Variable Rate will apply, which is likely to result in an increase in your monthly repayments. A charge equivalent to the discount received will be made if the mortgage is redeemed, converted from variable rate terms or a capital repayment (except normal monthly payments on a repayment mortgage) is made before 31.5.2001. In addition to the charge applying to the discount or Fixed Rate package a charge equivalent to the Cashback received will be made if you repay the mortgage in part or in full before 31.5.2001. The Cashback may affect personal liability to Capital Gains Tax. All APRs are typical and variable. Secured loans and mortgages require a charge on your property and in the case of an endowment mortgage an endowment/life policy for the amount of the advance and a charge over the policy. All loans subject to status and valuation and are not available to persons under 18 years of age. A High Loan to Value Fee is required if the loan exceeds 75% of the property's valuation (or in certain cases the purchase price, whichever is lower). We require the property to be insured. If not insured through us, we reserve the right to charge an administration fee of £25. Written quotations are available on request. Rates correct at time of going to press. *As a percentage of the purchase price or valuation whichever is lower. Abbey National plc, which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority, only sells its own life assurance, pension and unit trust products. Abbey National, the Umbrella Couple symbol and The habit of a lifetime are trademarks of Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL, United Kingdom.

GIORGIO ARMANI

هكذا من الأصل

MoD to buy ro-ro ferries for rapid deployment force

By Michael Evans, defence correspondent

TWO roll-on, roll-off ferries are to be bought for the Armed Forces as part of a £150 million package to boost rapid deployment capability. Michael Portillo announced yesterday that the ferries, with more light artillery guns and advanced communications, will be available for the new joint rapid deployment force, which will be operational in August.

Next week the Defence Secretary will open a permanent joint forces headquarters at Northwood, northwest London, which will be responsible for planning and running deployments of British forces in conflicts or peacekeeping missions. The 300-man tri-service centre, to be commanded by Lieutenant-General Christopher Wallace, will be responsible for dispatching the rapid deployment force, a brigade-sized unit of about 5,000 soldiers, based on 3 Commando Brigade and 5 Airborne Brigade.

The force will be supported by RAF aircraft and helicopters, Army attack helicopters, specialist amphibious shipping and other units selected for specific missions. An armoured battalion group and a mechanised infantry group will also be selected for possible deployment with the new force.

The SAS is to be given a new home at a disused RAF base after the planned closure of its headquarters in the suburbs of Hereford. The regiment has been hunting for premises for some time because Stirling Lines, its base for about 40 years, has limited space for training. Yesterday it was confirmed that the elite regiment would move to Credenhill, a disused RAF base a few miles away.

The new ferries are seen as vital for moving men and equipment rapidly to trouble spots without having to charter available merchant vessels. A senior defence source said: "What we need is assured availability. If you are to move something like mechanised infantry quickly, it is critically important to have a fundamental element of your sealift on tap."

As part of the drive for flexibility and joint forces operations, the RAF is planning to link up with the Royal Navy in a new strategy that will see air force ground-attack Harriers deployed side-by-side with Sea Harriers on board aircraft carriers. In training trials this month, two Harrier GR7s from RAF Wittering in Cambridgeshire have been flying from the carrier *HMS Illustrious* in joint missions with the Navy's FA2 Sea Harriers from 801 Squadron. Further trials are planned later this year when RAF Harriers will carry out nighttime flights from either *HMS Illustrious* or *HMS Invincible*.

Captain Jonathan Band, commander of *HMS Illustrious*, told the Navy's newspaper, *Navy News*: "The combination of the two aircraft employed from the sea in a power projection role is something that we need. It would give us the option of putting, say, six GR7s on board with six to eight Sea Harriers which would give us a much greater weight of attack or presence."

Under the new strategy which has yet to be formally approved, the RAF Harriers would stay with their own squadrons but would practise their new designated role each year.

Navy sources said this month's trials were aimed at ensuring that the new Harrier GR7, which has bigger wings than its predecessor, the GR5, would be capable of sharing the flight deck with the Navy's Sea Harriers. During the trials, the two different types of Harrier conducted joint bombing exercises on ranges ashore and flew against jets from the American aircraft carrier, *USS George Washington*.

As part of the new flexible policy between the Services, Army Lynx helicopters have also been operating from warships off Portland in training exercises.

Army may let women join battle tank crews

By Michael Evans
Defence correspondent

WOMEN may serve in future battlefield tank crews after an all-party Commons committee approved expanding their role in the Army.

Women already fly fighter jets and helicopters and "could be engaged in offensive action", the MPs on the Defence Committee said in a report on manning and recruitment. At present only 47 per cent of all posts in the Army were open to women, the report said. Army chiefs were reviewing their possible role in combat units and decisions were due this summer.

Research was also being carried out by the defence evaluation and research agency to develop a series of physical fitness standards and tests as part of an overall study of women's role.

The committee said it welcomed the reviews and the prospect of wider opportunities for women in the Army. "Deployment of women in tanks and infantry in the direct contact battle will be seen by some as a major step. For others it is a natural progression," the report said.

The MPs said that for some years women in all three services had been working in positions of danger "where they can be involved in combat, whether in support of the frontline, at sea in warships or at RAF bases". They recommended that before any decision was made by ministers to deploy women in armoured regiments and infantry, "the legal and social issues involved should be debated in the House".

The report also found that one reason for the manpower shortage in the Army was the relatively high number of new soldiers who failed to complete their training. The drop-out rate among women was significantly higher than among men. Lack of fitness was another factor.

The MPs said the Army was short of 4,711 soldiers. While the overall size of the Army was still in line with plans, it would go into "deficit manning" this year and next. That compared with the Royal Navy and RAF, both of which had been able to meet their recruitment targets.

Blunder silences Queen's tribute to Polish Jews

From Alan Hamilton in Warsaw

A COMPUTER error prevented the Queen paying tribute yesterday to the wartime bravery of Polish Jews.

A packed special session of the Polish parliament listened appreciatively as the Queen described the courage of Polish forces during the Second World War. According to the text distributed in advance she should then have said: "Nor can we ever forget the suffering of the Polish people under Nazi occupation, nor the terrible fate of Polish Jews."

But she went straight on to her next paragraph, recalling that postwar liberty for Poland had been delayed by the Communist era.

The blunder was particularly unfortunate because the Queen was criticised by some British Jews last week for not including a visit to Auschwitz in her historic state visit to Poland. A visit to a Holocaust memorial in central Warsaw was hurriedly added to her programme.

A Palace spokesman said last night: "The omission of one sentence in the speech was absolutely unintentional. The computer printing out the Queen's copy left it off the bottom of the page. It is entirely our fault, and we very much regret it."

In the remainder of her speech, the Queen backed Poland's ambition to join Western institutions, including the European Union and Nato. In a clear message to Russia, which has voiced objections to the eastward expansion of Western European defence, she said: "We strongly support the enlargement of the European Union and Nato, we are in sympathy with your aim to join these bodies, and we are determined that that aim cannot be subject to a veto by any other country. Poland needs Europe, but Europe also needs Poland."

Later the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh entertained Lech Walesa to tea in the Belvedere Palace where they are staying. Poland's former President was their guest at Buckingham Palace and Windsor in 1991. Mr Walesa was on the guest list for the Queen's official lunch for Polish dignitaries in Warsaw's Bristol Hotel yesterday, but he declined because President Kwasniewski, who defeated him in elections last November, was attending.

After the 25-minute private meeting, Mr Walesa said: "The Queen and I are like old friends; we go back a long time. She is still the mother of her nation; in democracy in Poland we have destroyed so many institutions that we need a point of reference." Mr Walesa, however, appears to harbour no ambition to be Poland's first king for 201 years; he plans to return to work in the Gdansk shipyards.

Five Polish generals were also missing from the lunch despite having invitations. When they arrived they found there were no seats for them. Instead, they were likely to be invited to last night's gala ballet performance in the Queen's honour at the National Theatre Warsaw.

During the second day of her state visit the Queen was presented with a lump of old aluminium, said to be part of the fuselage of an RAF Liberator bomber that crashed during the Warsaw uprising in August 1944. "That's very historic," the Queen said, glancing hurriedly at an aide to take charge of it.

It was presented when she laid a wreath at a memorial in a Warsaw park marking the spot where the bomber went down. Only one crew member, Henry Lloyd Lyne, survived the crash and he had travelled from his Cornish home for the ceremony yesterday. Mr Lyne, 73, was touched but not overly impressed by the gift to the Queen. "Every time I come here, somebody gives me a bit of aeroplane. They say it is mine. I have a garage full of bits at home."

DAN CHUNG

Alex Bennett leaving the Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham yesterday

Swimming champion in crash is home at last

By Craig Lord

THE swimmer Alex Bennett left hospital yesterday almost seven weeks after a head-on car crash shattered her hopes of competing for Britain at the Olympic Games this summer.

"I can't wait to get in the water," she said as she left. The Commonwealth gold and silver medallist must first use the hydrotherapy pool to help her to walk again. She suffered injuries to her hip, knees and ankles in the crash.

Bennett had been driving to training in Nottingham to prepare for the British Olympic trials. Those ended in Sheffield on Sunday and Bennett, who would have almost certainly qualified, was allowed out of hospital for the day to support her former teammates.

Bennett, 19, from Nottingham, thanked the staff of the city's Queen's Medical Centre. She added: "I'm glad they let me out to attend the trials. It was good to see so many of my friends make the Olympic team. I'm only sorry I can't be there with them."

Chris, her mother, was delighted at her return: "It's a week early, but three weeks later than the date she might have come home on had she not needed subsequent operations to her ankles."

Bennett, national winter champion at 400m freestyle, had delayed going to university by a year to concentrate on preparing for the Olympics in Atlanta in July.

Teenagers jailed for fatal attack

TWO muggers were jailed for two years at the Old Bailey yesterday after they admitted robbing a newspaper seller who was celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of VE-Day. Thomas Kidd, from Brixton, south London, who was in his 60s, died four days later from a ruptured liver and abdominal bleeding. He initially declined medical help.

Charges of manslaughter were dropped on the direction of the judge, the Recorder of London, Sir Lawrence Verney. The two youths, now aged 17, cannot be named because of their age at the time of the attack. They robbed Mr Kidd of his £75 takings.

Vicars sacrifice marital joy on the altar of work

By Ruth Gledhill, religion correspondent

VICARS' wives suffer in loneliness at home and endure unsatisfactory love lives because of their husbands' demanding jobs, according to a new study by a clergyman. Eighty per cent of clergy complained of working abnormal hours and said it was making a misery of their home lives.

Three out of four vicars and rectors admitted that their wives had complained of loneliness and had at some point accused their husbands of caring more for their parishioners than for them.

Nearly 60 per cent of vicars had no social life to speak of, while even more complained that their workload interfered with their love lives. For nearly 12 per cent, the interference with their love life was "a source of especial stress".

More than 80 per cent said the abnormal hours they worked were a cause of "marital tension" and admitted that their home lives were suffering because of the stress.

The Rev Clifford Bowman, 38, a married rector in Worksop, questioned more than 60 vicars and rectors on occupational stress for a paper he is writing as part of his studies for an MA at Nottingham University. He was invited by the Bishop of Southwell, the Right Rev Patrick Harris, to present his findings to all the clergy in the diocese.

Mr Bowman, who had asked 300 questions about his subjects' physical health, the burden of paperwork and administration, family life, ability to delegate, their perfectionism and the training they had received, found that vicars were given an academic training unsuited to the practical demands of parish life.

Few had the management skills as well as the pastoral and theological ones needed for the job. Fifty-nine per cent said they had no social life. While attempting to be a good husband, they often assumed their wife would "understand" when they had to spend time with their parishioners instead.

Mr Bowman said: "Clergy tend to have strong assumptions of what a good husband should be like. The turbulence begins when a priest feels that the demands and expectations placed on him by his work are making it increasingly hard for him to live according to his assumptions of what he or she should be like as a good husband and father, or wife and mother. These expectations are increasingly in conflict."

He said that in some cases vicars' wives had amended the questionnaire. Where the vicars had said their jobs did not cause stress, the wives had scribbled: "Oh yes it does."

Did you Breakdown last year?

NO

Then save money with

Autonational Rescue

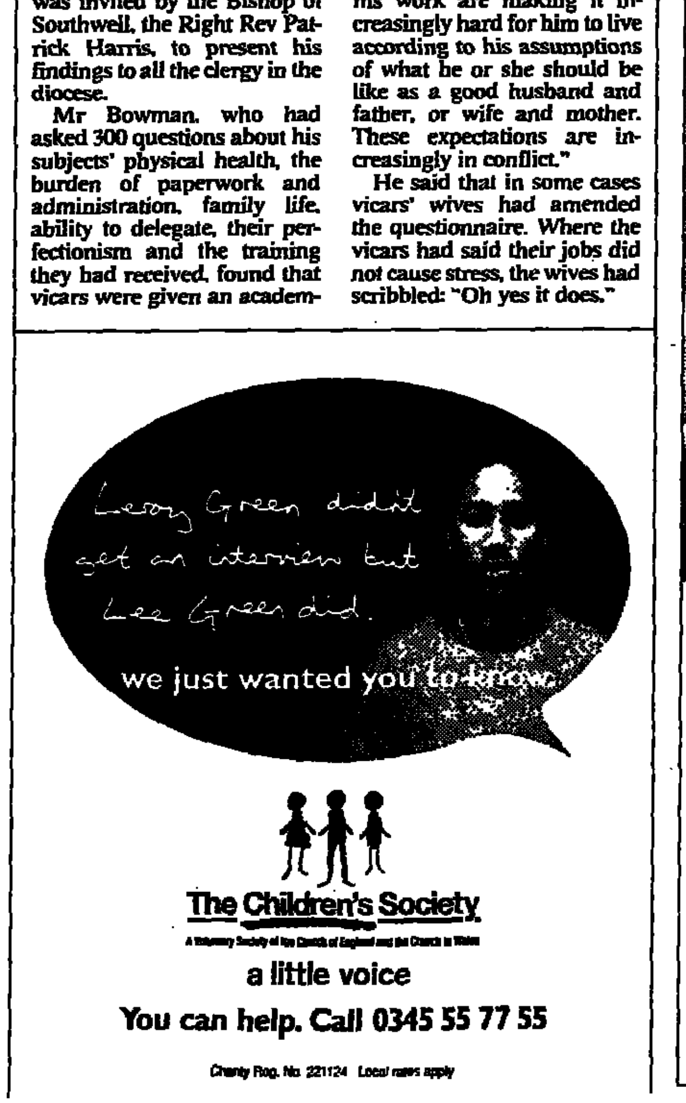
The breakdown service with a 25% Bonus

Car Rescue from £24

Total Superservice from £48

LocalCall Brochure Line
— 0645 755 000 —

Please send me a FREE brochure
Fax:- 01277 200716 Anytime
Name ....
Address ....
....
Postcode: .... Phone: ....
Expiry Data of Current Cover ....
I would like a brochure sent to me now ☐
When my existing cover expires ☐
Send to: Autonational Rescue, FREEPOST CL 266,
Brentwood, Essex CM14 4YW
T1


Leroy Green didn't
get an interview but
Lee Green did.
we just wanted you to know.

The Children's Society

A Voluntary Society of the Church of England and the Church in Wales

a little voice

You can help. Call 0345 55 77 55

Charity Reg. No. 221124 Local rates apply

Whatever sort of day you have, trust Viglen to make your life easier

A range of PCs with a unique combination of leading edge technology and tremendous value, every one of Viglen's products has built-in upgradeability for future developments and lifetime technical support - your guarantee of peace of mind!

Little wonder that Viglen's products have won countless awards time and time again, or that Viglen is a leading supplier not only to businesses all over the UK but also government, public sector, education and the home market.

And because you're buying direct from a leading British manufacturer, you're also guaranteed unbeatable value for money, delivered right to your door

See how Viglen can change your life, whether you use your PC for work or for play.

Prices for a Viglen Multimedia system with a 75MHz Pentium® Processor start from only **£1199** (inc delivery+VAT) and go all the way up to **£3299** (inc delivery+VAT) for a fully featured top of the range Genie PCI Multimedia PC with 166MHz Pentium® Processor

Call 0181 758 7000 to place your order or for your free copy of the Viglen Direct Guide, and we guarantee you'll never look back.

THE VIGLEN HOME MULTIMEDIA PC

75MHz PENTIUM® PROCESSOR

- Viglen Contender® Executive ES System
- 8MB RAM
- 540MB HD
- 14" SVGA Colour Monitor
- Microsoft Mouse
- Quad speed CD ROM Drive
- PCI Graphics Card
- Stereo Speakers & Microphone
- Microsoft® Windows® 95
- Six Software Titles as shown

£1199 inc delivery+VAT

(£1005.43 exc delivery+VAT)

3 DAY DELIVERY
We have a selection of special configuration Multimedia models which we can deliver within 3 days from clearance of payment. Simply, phone us for more details.

intel inside pentium

PCI

Designed for Microsoft® Windows®95

Tel 0181 758 7000
Fax 0181 758 7080

Viglen

Viglen Limited. Viglen House. Alperton Lane. Alperton, Middlesex HA0 1DX.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND YOUR FREE COPY OF THE VIGLEN DIRECT GUIDE PHONE OR RETURN THE COUPON
Name Title
Address
Postcode Telephone
NPF&S/TT13
Please send me more information on the Viglen range of personal computers ☐ Business/Education use ☐ Home/Personal use

Contender, Genie and Viglen are trademarks of Viglen Limited. Microsoft, MS-DOS, Windows 95 and the Microsoft Ready to Run logo are trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. The Intel Inside logo and Pentium are trademarks of Intel Corporation. All other trademarks are acknowledged

Why is the new 400 so enjoyable? Because power steering is standard on all models. Because leather and walnut are available on the 2.0 litre GS models.

Because the award winning K-series engine has a patented 'through bolt' construction which offers exceptional power and fuel efficiency. Because the 2.0 litre T-series engines use multi-point injection and crankshaft counterweights for stunning performance combined with superb refinement.

Because the suspension design and engine mounts are treated as a single system, you get precise handling as well as the smoothest ride in its class. If you'd like to know more about why sitting in a Rover 400 Saloon is one of the most enjoyable things you can do with your clothes on, phone us on 0345 186 186.

ROVER

RELAX,
IT'S A
ROVER.

MODEL SHOWN 420SLI £15,895. ROVER 400 SALOON PRICES FROM £13,695 TO £17,195. PRICES, CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS, EXCLUDE £528.00 COST OF DELIVERY TO DEALER, NUMBER PLATES AND 6 MONTHS ROAD TAX. SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.

STILL FROM 'SIGN OF THE CROSS', CLAUDETTE COLBERT - PARAMOUNT PICTURES

FEW PLACES ARE AS *ENJOYABLE*
AS A ROVER 400.

هكذا من الاصل

Howard hails success of strategy but insists ministers are far from complacent

Fall in crime marred by rising violence

By Richard Ford and Stewart Tendler

VIOLENT crime and robberies increased last year in spite of an overall drop in recorded offences in England and Wales for the third consecutive year. The 2.4 per cent fall to 5,123,600 recorded offences during 1995 was also blighted by a rise in crime during the second half of the year.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, praised the downturn, pointing out that it was only the third time this century that there had been three consecutive falls. The others were 1912-15 and 1951-54.

He was unable, however, to explain why there were 42,776 more recorded crimes in the second half of 1995 compared with the first six months. "I cannot guarantee that every set of crime figures that are produced will follow the downward trend," he said.

"We continue to be determined to fight crime and we are sending a message to the criminal that there is no hiding place. Our strategy is having an impact but we are far from complacent."

Police welcomed the decrease in 1995 but said that the rise in violent crime was a matter of concern because it was an area less susceptible to prevention initiatives. Violent crime rose 2 per cent from 310,900 to 316,300 and the number of robberies, mostly street muggings, rose 14 per cent to 68,400.

Sir Trefor Morris, Chief Inspector of Constabulary, suggested that one reason for the increase in robbery might be that police operations against mugging had encouraged more people to report incidents.

Fred Broughton, chairman of the Police Federation, said: "We should be very concerned by the increase in reported robberies. Although violent crime is still only 6 per cent of all known crime, the underlying trend is upwards."

The clear-up rate for offences has not improved. A culprit was found for only 26 per cent of crimes, the same as in 1994. Interviews with criminals already in jail accounted for 20 per cent of the offences cleared up.

Mr Howard will unveil the next phase of his drive to curb crime when he announces proposals for tougher sentences tomorrow. He is eager to ensure that the rise in the second half of last year is contained. There were falls of 1 per cent in 1993 and 5 per cent in 1994, giving a total fall of 468,000 crimes during the past three years. In spite of this, however, there has been an annual average increase of 3.6 per cent in recorded crime during the past decade. During 1995 there was a 15 per cent increase in drug trafficking, to 21,300 offences, a 24.7 per cent rise in perverting the course of justice, to 4,413 and a 16 per cent increase in kidnapping, to 1,250.

Violence against the person fell 1 per cent from 219,200 to 217,500, in contrast with the overall rise in violent offences. It is the first time since 1949 that offences of violence against the person has fallen in a calendar year. Within this category, the number of homicides — including murder, manslaughter and infanticide — rose 3 per cent to 746. Threats or conspiracy to murder rose 3.8 per cent to 7,061. Recorded child abductions increased 24 per cent from 337 to 361.

Sexual offences fell 5 per cent to 30,400, the first drop since 1990. Gloucestershire police recorded the largest year-on-year fall in this category, of 30 per cent, but its 1994 figure was increased by the Frederick and Rosemary West case.

The number of reports of female rape remained stable at about 5,000 and there were 152 reports of male rape, which was made a specific offence in the 1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act. Buggery and indecent assault of men and women fell, as did the number of reported offences of unlawful sexual intercourse with girls under the ages of 13 and 16.

Property offences fell 3 per cent to 4.8 million. Burglary from homes fell from 679,600 to 646,700 though burglary from other premises rose 3.3 per cent to 597,029. Home Office staff suggested that the increase was linked to changes in how the offence was classified. All forces now record burglary from a garage or shed that is not attached to a house as non-domestic.

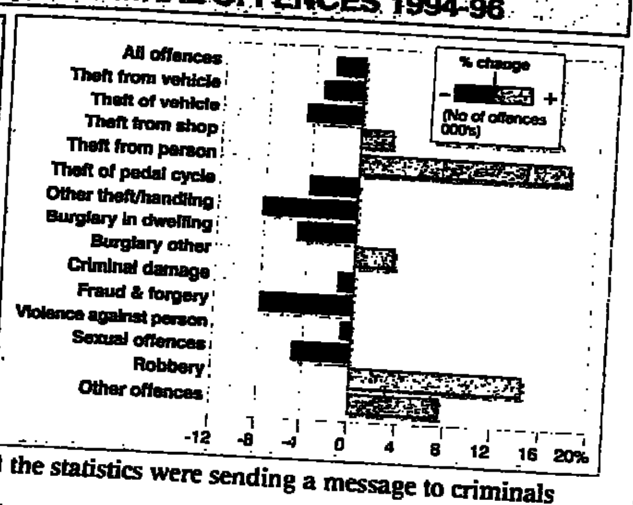
Vehicle offences dropped 4 per cent from 1,376,400 to 1,323,500: thefts from a vehicles fell from 842,000 to 814,000 and theft of cars or unauthorised taking away dropped almost 5 per cent to 502,925.

The Home Office's annual statistics carry a warning, which points out that a large proportion of crime is unrecorded as many offences are not reported to the police. The British Crime Survey, which is based on interviews with a representative sample of 10,000 people, consistently shows a much higher rate of crime than the police statistics.

A 17 per cent rise in muggings was announced yesterday by the Metropolitan Police, whose figures were included in the Home Office statistics. But Sir Paul Condon, the Commissioner, said there had been a sharp drop since the launch of Operation Eagle Eye, aimed at preventing street robbery. In August 1995 the number of muggings was 3,570: in February this year it had fallen by 28 per cent to 2,587.

Sir Paul blamed a 9 per cent rise in recorded burglaries in London on the reclassification of garage and garden shed break-ins.

THE TREND IN CRIMINAL OFFENCES 1994-96



The Home Secretary said the statistics were sending a message to criminals

SATURDAY
IN THE TIMES

Kate Muir meets Emmanuelle Béart, femme fatale, in the **Magazine**

Melvyn Bragg on goddesses ancient and modern, in **Weekend**

PLUS
Car 96, **Weekend Money**, **1015** for young *Times* readers and **Vision**, the 7-day television and radio guide

Household Survey

Elderly disprove predictions of a feeble old age

By Ian Murray and Dominic Kennedy

BRITONS are not only living longer but are staying healthier in old age, according to an authoritative survey on the health of the elderly. Although the population is growing older, there is no increase in the proportion of feeble, infirm or dependent people.

The finding suggests that the 21st century, far from being a nightmare of weak old people becoming a burden on the shrinking proportion of young people, could be a golden age of active, sprightly pensioners.

The figures surprised researchers at the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, who yesterday published the General Household Survey 1994. Bob Barnes, head of the social survey, said: "Despite the ageing population, the proportion who cannot get out and look after themselves hasn't changed.

"Potentially that has quite a large significance for the next century if that were to be the beginning of a trend. If the proportion of dependent disabled unable to look after themselves doesn't increase, it is not such a gloomy outlook as some are predicting."

In the past 25 years, the number of people aged over 75 has increased from 4 per cent to 6 per cent of the population. The proportion of these pensioners aged over 85 has increased from 6 per cent to 9 per cent since 1980, an increase of about 110,000 people in the oldest age group.

Nearly 40 per cent of all elderly people said their health had been good over the past year compared with less than 25 per cent who said it had not been good. This is a slight improvement on the 1980 figures, but the fact that there are now many more in the older age group means that overall the health of the elderly is improving.

The need for health and social services support has nevertheless grown because the proportion of elderly people living with their children or close relatives has dropped from 21 per cent to 15 per cent since 1980.

Elderly people said they were able to do less than usual on 54 days a year because of illness, but overall only 13 per cent said they were unable to manage going out and walking down the road unaided.

The researchers were concerned about the 39 per cent who lived on their own but were unable to perform simple self-care tasks. Of these, 9 per cent needed help to bathe and 31 per cent could not cut their own toenails. Among those aged over 80 the proportion rose steeply.

"This group will require intensive support from an outside source, either relatives or friends or NHS or personal social services, if they are to remain living in the community," the report says.

Those living alone are buying more modern gadgets, although they are more likely to have a microwave oven than a video recorder or CD player.

☐ *Living in Britain*: Results from the 1994 General Household Survey (HMSO: £23.50)

More women drink 'unhealthy amount'

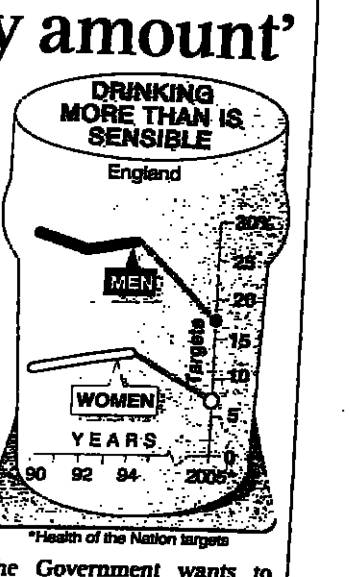
THE proportion of women who drink more than is sensible has increased by almost a fifth in two years.

The increasing popularity of alcohol and a growing reluctance among smokers to give up cigarettes are putting the Government's Health of the Nation targets in jeopardy.

By 2005, ministers want fewer than 7 per cent of women to be drinking more than 14 units of alcohol a week (seven pints of beer or 14 glasses of wine). Although the Government raised the sensible drinking level for women to 21 units in December, the Health of the Nation targets remain unchanged.

In 1984, 9 per cent of women drank 14 units a week. By 1992 that had risen to 11 per cent and yesterday's survey shows that by 1994 13 per cent drank more than 14 units. "You can't overlook the increasing access to alcohol over the past 20 years in supermarkets and general stores," the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys said. "You also have the increased popularity of drinking among women, perhaps to do with increasing independence and wider social life."

Men also seem reluctant to reduce their drinking, with 27 per cent continuing to drink more than 21 units a week.



*Health of the Nation targets

The Government wants to reduce the figure to 18 per cent by 2005, although it has since raised the sensible drinking level for men to 28 units.

Although smoking is declining, the rate of giving up is much slower than in the 1970s or 1980s. The Government wants fewer than 20 per cent of both sexes to smoke by 2000, but 28 per cent of men and 26 per cent of women are still smoking.

Among girls aged between 16 and 19 cigarette smoking rose to 27 per cent in 1994 from 25 per cent in 1992. In 1974, one in three men smoked cigars, but 20 years later the figure was down to 6 per cent.

IT'S UNIVERSALLY RECOGNISED

(but it's not your logo).

Registration to ISO 9000 says as much about your company as your annual report. In some cases it says even more, because as the only universally recognised quality standard, it is something which is awarded objectively, by independent auditors.

There is a further advantage if these auditors are from BSI, the organisation that "wrote the book" when they published BS5750 back in 1979.

IT IMPROVES PRODUCTIVITY

(but it's not a management consultant).

ISO 9000 almost always gives an immediate result in terms of productivity and efficiency, and that means cost reductions.

Your customers benefit because your product or service should perform more consistently.

You can have an immediate dialogue with other registered organisations, giving you a guarantee that you're working with the best. Staff morale is better because they understand what is expected of them and each other.

IT GIVES YOU A COMPETITIVE EDGE

(but it's not a new price policy).

If you're chasing a contract and you're up against a company that's not registered to ISO 9000 you have a distinct, measurable advantage.

If you're in the same situation against a company which is also registered, but they didn't gain theirs through BSI, you still have the edge.

That's because BSI have been doing it to the highest standard of application and professionalism, longer than any other certification body and to more companies in the UK and worldwide.

IT PAYS FOR ITSELF

(but it's not a miracle).

In registering to ISO 9000 through BSI, your organisation gets a review of your quality management system at a much lower cost than calling in other types of business advisory services.

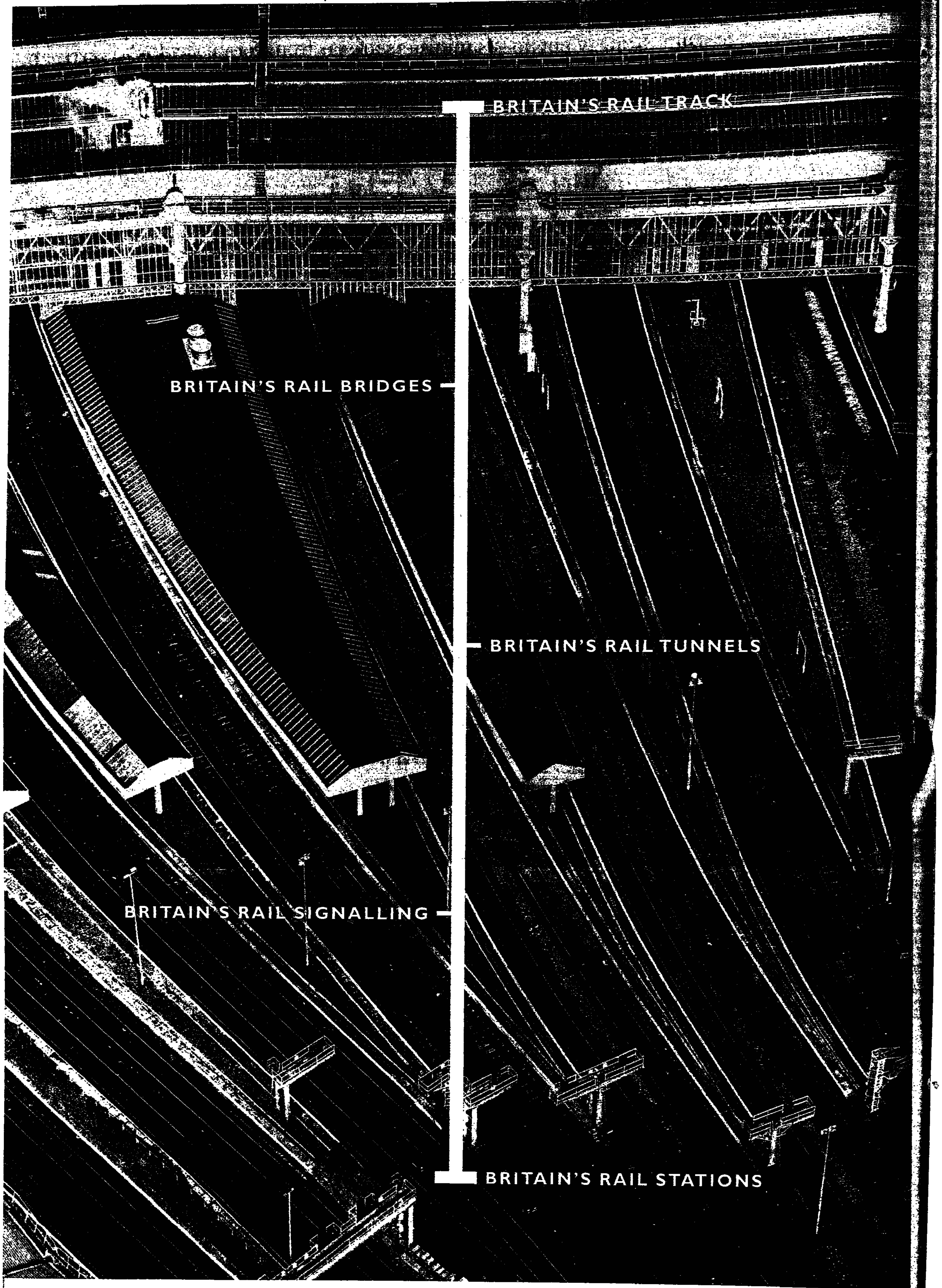
The real dividend comes within your first year of implementation. In that time you should see improvements in all aspects of your business which can cover the cost of BSI registration.

Our prices are fixed, but are obviously dependent on the size and nature of your organisation and the size of the audit team we put in.

We'll be more than happy to visit you to review your quality management system or we can send you a detailed information pack.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PHONE
01908 228007 OR FAX US ON
01908 228013 QUOTING REFERENCE TMS

BSI REGISTERED FIRM



Railtrack owns and operates Britain's national rail network of some 10,000 route miles of track, around 40,000 tunnels, viaducts and bridges, and signalling. It also owns some 2,500 stations. And the Government's sale of shares is underway. To register for information, you simply need to call one of the many banks, building societies, stockbrokers or other financial intermediaries offering a Share Shop service. Look for the list with telephone numbers appearing in the national press. Once you have registered, your Share Shop will send you further information about Railtrack and the Railtrack Share Offer.

RAILTRACK
Share Offer
REGISTER AT A SHARE SHOP

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND APPROVED BY SBC WARBURG, A DIVISION OF SWISS BANK CORPORATION, REGULATED IN THE UK BY SFA. THE VALUE OF SHARES CAN FLUCTUATE. ANY APPLICATION FOR SHARES SHOULD BE BASED ON THE PROSPECTUS ALONE. FOR ADVICE CONSULT A PROFESSIONAL ADVISER.

A funny thing happened to British animator on the way to the theatre

Thompson scores Oscar double with thanks to Austen

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

Nick Park with his third Oscar

BRITISH stars and film-makers basked in the Oscars limelight yesterday, with Emma Thompson and Nick Park making cinema history.

Thompson scored an unprecedented double by adding an Oscar for the screenplay of Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility* to her acting trophy, the 1991 Academy Award for Best Actress. Nick Park, creator of the Plasticine characters Wallace and Gromit, won the Best Animated Short Film prize for the third time. Park's 1996 Oscar for *A Close Shave*, commissioned by the BBC, joins his Academy Awards for *Creature Comforts*, 1991, and *The Wrong Trousers*, 1994: he has won an award for each film he has submitted.

Receiving the award for the Best Adapted Screenplay at the Los Angeles ceremony on Monday night, Thompson, 36, said: "Before I came, I went to visit Jane Austen's grave in Winchester Cathedral to pay my respects and tell her about the grosses. I don't know how she would react to an evening like this, but I do hope she knows how big she is in Uruguay."

Park, 37, who runs Bristol-based Aardman Animation, made a typically modest speech: "To Wallace and Gromit and all the crew back home, thanks a lot — we did it again." He confirmed he has had talks with Hollywood executives about making a feature-length animated film. But Wallace and Gromit will not be in it.

It used to take all day to shoot 48 frames of Wallace and Gromit animation — two seconds of final film. A bigger team, with Park "directing", meant *A Close Shave* was completed at the lightning pace of six seconds a day. The 30-minute cartoon caper, in which Wallace and his tetchy dog Gromit fight crime, took ten months to film, at a cost of £1.3 million. It will be shown again on April 5 on BBC1.

Park himself had a close shave with a policeman on Monday night. He decided to drive to the Oscars in a red motorcycle and sidecar, like the one driven by Wallace and Gromit. He was pulled over and cautioned for not wearing a helmet.

The best documentary-feature prize went to the BBC's *Anne Frank Remembered*, a history of the young Jewish diarist who died in Belsen, including interviews with those who knew the Frank family. The film, to be screened again on April 8 on BBC2, was written, directed and produced by Jon Blair. Collecting his prize, Blair was accompanied to the platform by Miep Gies, who had kept the Franks alive as they hid from the Nazis in an Amsterdam attic, and who, he explained, had found Anne's diary after the family was rounded up. "Without her, Anne Frank's story might never have been told," he told the audience.

FRED PROUSER

Emma Thompson acknowledges the applause

British animators scored further success, with the Oscar for Best Visual Effects going to Jim Henson's Creature Shop in Camden Town, for creating the talking farmyard animals in *Babe*. Neil Scanlan collected the award on behalf of the company. "Animatronic" animals that speak like humans included a piglet hero, a duck, cat and a sheepdog.

Other Britons celebrating yesterday included Michael Kuhn, president of Polygram Filmed Entertainment, which had many Oscar successes: Kevin Spacey was named Best Supporting Actor for *The Usual Suspects* — co-produced by the British producer Robert Jones; and Christopher McQuarrie won best screenplay (written directly for the screen) for that film. Susan Sarandon was named Best Actress for *Dead Man Walking*.

James Acheson, another Briton, won his third Oscar, being named the Best Costume Designer for *Restoration*. He won his first Academy Award in 1987 for *The Last Emperor* and his second a year later for *Dangerous Liaisons*.

Wilf Stevenson, director of the British Film Institute, said: "Our film industry is alive and well in Hollywood. What we need is to bring back to the UK all that skill and expertise."

Nigella Lawson, page 17
Leading article, page 19

AND THE WINNERS WERE . . .

Picture: *Braveheart*. **Actor:** Nicolas Cage, *Leaving Las Vegas*. **Actress:** Susan Sarandon, *Dead Man Walking*. **Supporting actor:** Kevin Spacey, *The Usual Suspects* **Supporting actress:** Mira Sorvino, *Mighty Aphrodite* **Director:** Mel Gibson, *Braveheart* **Foreign film:** *Antonia's Line*, The Netherlands. **Screenplay** (written directly for the screen): Christopher McQuarrie, *The Usual Suspects*. **Screenplay** (based on material previously produced or published): Emma Thompson, *Sense and Sensibility*. **Art direction:** Eugenio Zanetti, *Restoration*. **Cinematography:** John Toll, *Braveheart* **Sound:** Rick Dior, Steve Pederson, Scott Millan, David MacMillan, *Apollo 13*. **Sound effects editing:** Lon Bender, Per Hallberg, *Braveheart*. **Original musical or comedy score:** Alan Menken and Stephen Schwartz, *Pocahontas* **Original dramatic score:** Luis Bacalov, *The Postman (Il Postino)*. **Original song:** Alan Menken and Stephen Schwartz, *Colors of the Wind* from *Pocahontas*. **Costume:** James Acheson, *Restoration* **Documentary feature:** *Anne Frank Remembered* **Documentary** (short subject): *One Survivor Remembers* **Film editing:** Mike Hill, Dan Hanley, *Apollo 13* **Make-up:** Peter Frampton, Paul Pattison, Lois Burwell, *Braveheart*. **Animated short film:** *A Close Shave*. **Live action short film:** *Lieberman in Love*. **Visual effects:** Scott E. Anderson, Charles Gibson, Neal Scanlan, John Cox, *Babe*. **Gordon E. Sawyer award:** Donald C. Rogers, for sound technology. **Honorary award:** Kirk Douglas. **Honorary award:** Chuck Jones, animator. **Special achievement award:** John Lasseter, *Toy Story*

North and South will reap rewards

By Dalya Alberge

A CLUTCH of Oscars for two films are expected to boost tourism in northern and southern Britain this year. Scotland will reap the rewards for the success of *Braveheart* and Hampshire, the "home" county of Jane Austen, for *Sense and Sensibility*.

Braveheart, directed by and starring Mel Gibson, picked up five Academy Awards. The savage epic of the 13th-century Scottish patriot William Wallace was largely filmed in Ireland, although parts were shot in Glen Nevis and Fort William.

The producers were wooed to Ireland by advantageous tax concessions for film-makers and the need to escape Highland midges and the unpredictable weather.

Derek Reid, chief executive of the Scottish Tourist Board, said: "If there had been an Oscar for Best Supporting Country, I'm sure Scotland would have picked it up."

Jane Austen spent most of her life in Hampshire and the county's Jane Austen museum at Chawton has already seen an increase in visitors in the wake of the success of the BBC Television version of *Pride and Prejudice*.

"We are absolutely delighted and thrilled about the Oscar," said Frances Fee, Hampshire County Council's marketing and promotions manager, referring to Emma Thompson's award for best adapted screenplay.

"It was terrific that Emma Thompson referred to Winchester Cathedral in her acceptance speech and gave us a plug."

The county today launches a free "Jane Austen Country" tourism booklet at the British Travel Trade Fair in Birmingham. It details the novelist's links with Hampshire and the museum, which was the home where she wrote many of her novels.

Colourful actors win few plaudits for dress sense

From Quentin Letts
in New York

Gibson: teamed black tie with tartan waistcoat

HOLLYWOOD men shunned the time-honoured black bow tie, white shirt and dinner jacket requested for the 68th Academy Awards ceremony, choosing instead an array of casual, collarless confections.

Jim Carrey, the $22 million-a-film comic actor, wore a dark, full-length undertaker's necktie. Robin Williams, presenting, opted for an artsy, stiff-angled ribbon sculpture around his neck, while Steven Spielberg walked on stage in black shirt, black tie and black jacket of differing shades. He looked terrible.

Steven Seagal, announcing an award, wore a black vest under his black jacket and a red sapphire and gold "meditation" ring. One thought of a nightclub bouncer.

Equally unconventional were Oscar winners such as the *Apollo 13* editor who wore a round brooch under his Adam's apple, the sound directors from *Braveheart* who both appeared to have forgotten to affix collars as well as ties to their dress shirts, and the sound team from *Apollo 13* who managed one tie among four.

Wilf Smith, the co-presenter, wore a wide-lapelled casual jacket over a billowing silk shirt sans tie. Jeremy Irons, one-time epitome of Old World chic, went for the look favoured by bond traders at City functions in the Eighties: horrid gold waistcoat and (ugh) a butterfly collar.

Mel Gibson was another in the patterned waistcoat brigade — inevitably — of tartan. Nor could one look for reassurance to the orchestra pit where Tim Scott, the conductor, was bare-necked.

It was left to the old guard to remind us of how good black tie can look. Martin Landau, Richard Dreyfuss and John Travolta, traditionally attired, were the smartest men in the room.

Cadbury agrees £10m Street deal

By Alexandra Frean, Media Correspondent

CORONATION STREET is to be sponsored by the chocolate firm Cadbury in a £10 million deal. Cadbury's name will appear in the opening and closing credits of the programme and the company will have the right to attach the *Coronation Street* name to its products in special promotions.

British television's biggest sponsorship deal is timed for the autumn to coincide with the introduction of a fourth weekly episode of *Coronation Street*. Andrea Wonfor, joint managing director of Granada Television, which makes the programme, said that there would be no gratuitous close-ups of Cadbury products in the Street's store, the Kabin.

Coronation Street, first broadcast in 1960, is regularly watched by 18 million viewers. Despite its obvious attraction to advertisers, it has taken nearly 18 months for Granada to agree a sponsor. Previously it had seemed close to deals with Pedigree Petfoods and with Allied Domecq, which makes Tetley tea, Tetley beer, Pedro Domecq sherry and Dunkin' Donuts.

The previous biggest sponsorship was Diet Coke's £4 million deal to sponsor ITV film premieres.

Media, page 23
Television, page 47

Limited Issue

Higher interest rates guaranteed for the next three years?

"Yes, with the Woolwich."

3 Year Guaranteed Growth Bond

6.25% Year 1 (gross pa*)
6.75% Year 2 (gross pa*)
8.00% Year 3 (gross pa*)

Whatever happens to interest rates over the next 3 years, the Woolwich's new 3 Year Guaranteed Growth Bond guarantees an increasing return on your investment.

Invest from a minimum of £1,000 for 3 years and even if general interest rates fall, we guarantee gross rates of 6.25% in the first year, 6.75% in the second and 8.00% in the third.

You will appreciate that no withdrawals can be made during the three year term.

The 3 Year Guaranteed Growth Bond is a limited offer so send in the coupon with your cheque today to Woolwich Building Society, FREEPOST (DT98), Kingswood House, Sidcup, Kent DA14 4BR.

Alternatively, call in to your local Woolwich branch or telephone us free on 0800 22 22 00 quoting ref: TG273.

http://www.woolwich.co.uk/woolwich

It's good to be with the WOOLWICH
— BUILDING SOCIETY —

Woolwich Building Society, FREEPOST (DT98), Kingswood House, Sidcup, Kent DA14 4BR

I/We enclose £________ to invest in a Woolwich 3 Year Guaranteed Growth Bond (min £1,000)

Cheques made payable to Woolwich Building Society. Interest to be paid annually/monthly (delete as appropriate).

Please send me further details of the Woolwich 3 Year Guaranteed Growth Bond. ☐

Name____________________
(Mr/Mrs/Miss/MS)
Address____________________
____
Postcode__________Telephone__________
Signed____________________
TG273

Gross rates for monthly income: Year 1: 6.08%, Year 2: 6.55%, Year 3: 7.72%.

*Interest will be payable net of the basic rate of income tax, or subject to the required certification, gross. However, interest payable on or after 6 April 1996 will be paid or credited after deduction of income tax at the lower rate of 20% or, subject to the required certification, gross. Where the tax deducted exceeds an investor's tax liability (if any), a claim may be made to the Inland Revenue for repayment of tax. For individuals whose income falls within the lower or basic tax bands, the tax deducted will match their liability to tax on the interest and they will have no more tax to pay on it. Individuals who are liable at the higher rate of income tax of 40% will have to pay additional tax on the interest to cover the difference between the tax deducted and the higher rate tax due. If an account is closed before 6 April 1996, any tax deducted will be at 25%. Rates are fixed as shown for 3 years from the date the account is opened until 30.4.1999. Year 1 from the date of opening account up to and including 30.4.97, Year 2 1.5.97 – 30.4.98 Year 3 1.5.98 – 30.4.99. Interest will be calculated daily, from the day of receipt in the case of a deposit of cash and from the fourth bank working day after receipt in the case of a deposit by cheque. Proof of identity may be required. No withdrawals are permitted during the 3 year term. Additional investments are permitted only while this issue of the Bond is still on offer. Full terms and conditions available on request from any Woolwich branch. Woolwich Building Society, Corporate HQ, Watling Street, Bexleyheath, Kent DA6 7RR. TG82

THE RAILTRACK SHARE OFFER IS UNDERWAY

RAILTRACK
Share Offer
REGISTER AT A SHARE SHOP

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND APPROVED BY SBC WARBURG, A DIVISION OF SWISS BANK CORPORATION, REGULATED IN THE UK BY SFA. THE VALUE OF SHARES CAN FLUCTUATE. ANY APPLICATION FOR SHARES SHOULD BE BASED ON THE PROSPECTUS ALONE. FOR ADVICE CONSULT A PROFESSIONAL ADVISER.

هكذا من الأصل

Health Secretary appears relaxed as he deals with third food scare of his political career

Dorrell draws on experience to face public anger

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Correspondent

INTERVIEW

STEPHEN DORRELL refused to accept yesterday that he had misjudged the public mood over "mad cow" disease, although he acknowledged that the past week had been one of the toughest of his political career.

The Health Secretary, who has endured a punishing round of ministerial meetings, Commons statements and press interviews since the furore began, said the experience was "not dissimilar" to the crisis when Britain was forced out of the exchange-rate mechanism in 1992; as Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Mr Dorrell attempted to defend the pound as he is now defending beef.

Mr Dorrell appeared cool and relaxed minutes after being mauled by angry mothers on the BBC Radio 4 phone-in programme *Call Nick Ross*. Accused of "appalling" complacency and a "frightening lack of concern" for public safety, he was barely able to get a word in to defend himself.

Afterwards, the Health Secretary brushed aside the charge that he had sheltered behind the Government's scientific advisers and had failed to respond to legitimate public concerns.

"I flatly refuse to accept that people are incapable of considering the evidence when it is presented to them," Mr Dorrell said. "Of course, I understand that real concerns are raised by this and the first reaction is to ask how bad it is going to be. But once you get through the first reaction, I am absolutely sure that in a modern democracy Government must trust the people, give them the facts and leave them to draw mature conclusions."

This is the third food scare that Mr Dorrell has encountered in politics. In 1990, he made his first speech as junior Health Minister, on the risks from shellfish, during a Commons debate on the Food Safety Bill. Earlier, during the salmonella-in-eggs scare of 1988, a constituent who had lost her baby after being infected with salmonella while pregnant came to consult him.

Mr Dorrell, MP for Loughborough, who was 44 on Monday, had to cancel a birthday celebration to appear on BBC2's *Newsnight* after making his Commons statement that children were at no greater risk than adults from eating beef.

Today, he will appear before a special joint session of the Commons health and agriculture committees called to consider the issue of BSE — six years after he first gave evidence on the subject to the select committee as junior health minister.

We must give people the facts and leave them to draw mature conclusions

He was first warned of the present crisis over beef two weeks ago by the Government's Chief Medical Officer, Sir Kenneth Calman. The Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee (Seac) was meeting to discuss ten cases of an apparently new strain of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. Although their conclusion, that it was likely to be linked with BSE in cattle, was grim, Mr Dorrell decided from the outset to tie his actions to the scientists' advice.

He said yesterday: "I was rung on Sunday night at home in Worcestershire by my private secretary. He told me the conclusions that the Seac committee had reached. I was obviously very concerned. But I was determined that we would proceed at a deliberate pace and not be seen either to be complacent or to over-react."

He alerted ministerial colleagues the following day and it was agreed that Seac should be asked to draw up policy recommendations before its findings were made public. The committee met on Tuesday afternoon and deliberated until the early hours of Wednesday morning. Its conclusions were delivered in time for the Cabinet meeting at 10.30am that day which was attended by Professor John Pattison, chairman of Seac, and Dr Calman.

"There was a lot of concern and discussion and questioning both of the scientific findings and the policy recommendations. The scientists then left and the Cabinet reached its conclusion that the Seac recommendations should be implemented." The conclusions were presented to Parliament last Wednesday.

Mr Dorrell admitted that he had felt the strain last week in defending the Government's position while the critical advice on what to do about children was still awaited.

"I am quite clear that I had no choice but to make the core finding public last Wednesday while the full scientific recommendations were still incomplete. It has been easier this week because the policy response is complete. I am clear in my own mind that the advice is unambiguous, namely, that the product is to all intents and purposes safe to eat."

Beef will continue to appear on the menu of the Dorrell household and his children, aged seven and three, would eat it if they chose to do so. "I will not stop them eating it," he said.

Simon Jenkins, page 18
Leading article and Letters, page 19

Tory 'incompetence' mocked

By Alice Thomson
Political Reporter

THE COMMONS

TONY BLAIR accused the Government of handling the beef crisis with "quite mind-boggling incompetence" yesterday and told the Prime Minister he lacked any sense of responsibility. John Major blamed Mr Blair's front bench for having done all they could to undermine confidence in the agriculture industry and for whipping up hysteria.

The two clashed at Prime Minister's Questions as Mr Blair tried to force Mr Major to quantify the risk from eating beef. Mr Blair said: "Don't you realise this country expects you as Prime Minister to take responsibility?"

Mr Major replied: "I would have thought you and your colleagues had done enough damage in the last few days that you would now stop trying to create health scares by inviting responses from any minister that can only competently come on the basis of scientific advice."

But after repeated attacks, Mr Major hinted that the Government may be forced to take further action, including the selected slaughter of cattle, if unwarranted scares continued to undermine public confidence in beef.

Several Tory MPs with farming constituencies made it clear that Mr Major needed to reassure the public fast that British beef was best. Others blamed the media.

Paul Marland, (Gloucestershire W) said the media should despatch investigative teams to Europe "to study what's known in Europe as staggers and manganese deficiency, which is actually BSE under another name."

David Ashby (Leicestershire NW) said the issue was not a party political crisis but a crisis for the whole nation. He said, "Can you persuade Mr Blair to stop making cheap party political points, which are doing the farming community so much harm?"

Labour MPs made it clear they thought the public knew exactly who was to blame. Mike Hall (Warrington S) told Mr Major: "Given your disgraceful performance this afternoon, do you remember telling the House that the Government had always and immediately acted upon the expert advice given to it by scientists on BSE? Yet you ignored early recommendations that BSE should be monitored through cattle brain samples."

Lawyers query justification for Brussels ban on exports

By Frances Gibb
Legal Correspondent

LEGAL POSITION

THE European Commission could find itself in the dock of the European Court of Justice if it endorses the proposed ban on beef from Britain.

Lawyers specialising in community law were agreed that the Commission had power in theory to impose a ban, at least in Europe, although some questioned the basis for a worldwide ban. But the "sixty four thousand dollar question", as one lawyer put it, "is whether any ban is justified on the scientific evidence currently available."

If the Government did take the Commission to the European Court, it would be on the ground that a ban on beef exports was "disproportionate" to the problem it sought to tackle.

Alastair Sutton, a barrister with the Brussells law firm Forrester Norall & Sutton said: "In matter of the common agricultural policy and external trade, the European Community does have what is called 'exclusive competence' to make decisions. These are the two classic areas where we have ceded power."

He said that although EU treaties provided for free trade, there was allowance for exception on grounds of protecting human health.

There was a clear consensus among lawyers yesterday that the Government could mount a challenge on whether the scientific evidence was such that public health needed a ban for its protection.

A key principle underpinning community law is that of proportionality, which has been developed over the years in rulings by the European Court. It means that any remedy — in this case the ban — must be proportionate to the ill it seeks to address.

Gerald Barling, QC, a leading European expert, said: "Any challenge to both an EU ban or a worldwide ban would be probably brought on grounds of proportionality, rather than the Commission's inherent power to impose a ban." If the Government took the Commission to court and won, the Commision — or whichever EU institution imposed any ban — could be liable for damages.

Peter Freeman, head of EU law at Simmons & Simmons, said: "It seems to me that the Commission is pushing the basis of legality quite far. It looks doubtful that they have a very clear black letter power. They seem to be basing any proposed ban on some general competence and the indirect effect on trade. This does raise proportionality: whether such action is too extreme on the basis of the evidence."

Keith Hendry, an EU specialist with Clifford Chance, agreed that the Commission had power to ban imports and exports within the community although a worldwide ban was a "grey area."

"I would start to have doubts. Are they basing such a ban on good evidence? One would ask whether they are concerned not so much with public health as with the market."

Even if a challenge might be possible in principle, other lawyers indicated yesterday that it might be difficult to sustain. Marina Wheeler, a community law barrister, said: "A ban falls fairly and squarely within what is allowed under article 36 on grounds of what is necessary to protect public health. The only way it could be challenged is by saying that any ban, on the advice of the scientific and veterinary committee, is unreasonable on the basis of the evidence put before it.

"That committee clearly has decided that human health is at risk, and on that basis I can't see that the Government could succeed in challenging it."

You don't have to be a Direct Line customer to apply for a Personal Loan.

Want a cheaper Personal Loan? Don't bank on the banks.

Good news if you're looking for a loan. You can borrow between £1,000 and £15,000 from Direct Line at a lower cost (as you can see from the table). Loans are unsecured and at a guaranteed fixed rate for the whole term. Whatever you want to buy we can lend a hand. As you'd expect from Direct Line the service is quick and efficient. And to save you even more money there's no arrangement fee. To qualify* you simply have to hold a comprehensive motor insurance policy with *any* insurer or be a Direct Line customer. Give us a call, we're waiting to beat the banks.

LOANS OVER 36 MONTHS WITHOUT REPAYMENT PROTECTION

LENDER	AMOUNT OF LOAN	APR%	36 MONTHLY REPAYMENTS	TOTAL PAYABLE
DIRECT LINE	£3,000	14.9%	£102.59	£3,693.24
	£6,000	13.9%	£202.66	£7,295.76
BARCLAYS	£3,000	17.9%	£106.42	£3,831.12
	£6,000	17.9%	£212.84	£7,662.24
NAT WEST	£3,000	16.9%	£105.05	£3,781.80
	£6,000	15.9%	£207.54	£7,471.44
ABBEY NATIONAL	£3,000	16.9%	£105.05	£3,781.80
	£6,000	15.9%	£207.54	£7,471.44

APR's correct at 18/03/96.

DIRECT LINE
PERSONAL LOANS

0181 680 9966
LONDON

0161 831 9966
MANCHESTER

0141 248 9966
GLASGOW

CALL ANYTIME 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday. Please quote ref. TT5

Personal Loans provided by Direct Line Financial Services Limited, 139 West Regent Street, Glasgow G2 2BQ. Loans available from £1,000 to £15,000. *You must be aged 22 or over, have a regular income, (evidence is required), hold a current comprehensive motor insurance policy or be an existing Direct Line customer. We reserve the right to decline any application. Please note loans for holidays are repayable over not more than 12 months. Repayments payable monthly by direct debit. Interest rate is fixed at the outset and will not vary throughout term of loan. Written quotations available on request. Direct Line and the red telephone on wheels are the trade marks of Direct Line Insurance plc and used with the permission of Direct Line Insurance plc.
For your added security all telephone calls will be recorded and the recording kept secure.

Appeals for calm cannot halt consumer stampede

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The one lesson you would have thought the Government would have learnt over the past few years is that you can't buck the markets. That applies as much as to the consumer market for beef as to the foreign exchange markets.

It is no good believing you are right, as John Major evidently does. In the *long run*, he may be correct that the risk from eating beef is very small, and that is what the *current* scientific evidence suggests. But what matters in a panic is the *short run* — and ministerial appeals for calm will not restore the confidence of beef consumers and producers. Mr Major recognised that yesterday in laying the ground for a government retreat over slaughtering, while seeking to shift the blame to irresponsible opposition comments.

Appeals to reason failed over sterling's membership of the exchange-rate mechanism in September 1992 and are likely to fail again over beef. One of the failings of the Major Government is stubbornness and a reluctance to make contingency plans at times of market pressure. That was true in the summer of 1992 as the Government stumbled inexorably towards Black Wednesday — as is vividly brought home by Philip Stephens's new book *Politics and the Pound* — and the same trance-like immobility has been repeated over the past week.

An essential political skill is to know how to escape from difficult situations rather than to make them worse. When the new scientific evidence appeared about a possible link between BSE and CJD, ministers should have realised the likely impact.

Their holding statement was bound to produce the reaction it has, albeit inflamed by some panicky stories and shrill reactions from some Labour spokesmen. It is obviously right to rely on scientific advice but that is a necessary, rather than sufficient, condition for the exercise of political judgment.

Ministers would have been more sensible to have prepared plans to reassure consumers rather than to allow uncertainty to develop. It is no good saying everything is fine when you have just said your previous assurances have been proved wrong. That has inevitably fuelled fresh doubts. Action of some kind has to be taken to *demonstrate* that consumers need not worry and to revive the beef market, as Paddy Ashdown argued yesterday. The cost of limited action on slaughtering, however symbolic, need not be very high.

Tory MPs are divded on the issue. Some argue that the fuss is much overdone and that the farming lobby has too much influence, while farming MPs are demanding that something must be done. Of course, the issue is not above politics, that is pious nonsense. The Government deserves to be criticised for its mishandling, though Stephen Dorrell has shown a sure touch in most of his public appearances.

But some of the Labour reaction has been over the top. It is crass to pretend that any government — Labour as well as Tory — would not face the same dilemmas over balancing the scientific evidence with the interests of consumers and producers. There is no simple solution, only a least worst one. Tony Blair's forensic approach and Gavin Strang's experience and knowledge have been preferable to Harriet Harman's partisan exaggerations — which yet again showed the price which Labour is paying for having been in opposition for so long.

Beef will not be on the front pages for ever. These rows normally only stay in the headlines for a week or two at most. People will start eating beef again. The Tories' standing in the polls is likely to suffer in the short-term and the affair may reinforce existing public doubts about its competence, however unfair Mr Major may regard such a reaction. BSE is likely to be remembered as merely a footnote in the history of the Major Government, but in its decline rather than its recovery.

Peter Riddell

Carcass disposal would be huge task

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

SLAUGHTER OPTION

ANY policy involving the large-scale slaughter of cattle to control BSE would face formidable logistical difficulties.

The National Farmers' Union argues that the best policy would be to destroy cows that have reached the end of their productive lives. That would not require any new slaughtering facilities since such animals are already being killed. But instead of being used for food, the carcasses would be destroyed, which could present problems.

In 1967-68, to control an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, 212,000 cows were slaughtered and burnt in the fields, along with 108,000 sheep and 114,000 pigs. But foot-and-mouth presented no danger to human beings.

A similar policy could not be followed for the much larger numbers of cattle involved in the NFU plan. It takes high temperatures to destroy the infective agents, so furnaces would be needed to ensure safety. Otherwise, the infection might escape and re-enter the food chain. Similarly, the slaughtered cattle could not be buried for fear of contaminating water courses.

Slaughtering could be the least of the problems, Ian Gardner of the NFU said. "We already slaughter about 3.3 million cattle every year, 800,000 cows and 2.5 million younger creatures," he said. "There is a lot of surplus slaughterhouse capacity so increasing those numbers might not be impossible."

Mr Gardner and others at the NFU argue that suspect cattle are safer alive than dead. "So long as they are alive they can't spread the disease, and they don't give it to their progeny" he says. "They are perfectly safe."

Industry sources said yesterday that abattoirs could start closing and laying off staff within the next ten days unless beef sales started moving again and the European blockade was lifted.

Britain's 484 abattoirs employ 15,000 people and earn about £3.5 billion a year. A further 100,000 people work in the meat-cutting and processing plants that the abattoirs supply.

The abattoirs' difficulties have been compounded by the decision to ban the use of any abattoir waste in feed for farm animals. As a result, thousands of tonnes of waste material remain uncollected at slaughterhouses.

Cheaper car insurance
Call Admiral now
0800 600 800
ADMIRAL

جنون البقر

Contamination scare spreads to gelatine, biscuits, fish and chips, cosmetics and medicines

Food firms try to cut all sources of British beef

By Andrew Pierce and Robin Young

CONSUMERS

FOOD manufacturers were considering dropping British beef from a wide range of products last night as consumer concern grew over the mixed messages coming from the Government and the European Union.

Customer service departments of shops were bombarded yesterday by record numbers of telephone calls from customers. Birds Eye Wall's is expected to become the latest company to ban British beef from its prepacked food. Customers telephoning the company helpline were assured that deliveries would be halted by the end of the week.

The Vegetarian Society said it was handling more than 400 telephone inquiries a day. Chris Olivant, the information manager, said: "The difficulty of avoiding beef fats and extracts means that choosing products carrying the 'suitable for vegetarians' symbols is the only quick way of ensuring you do not eat beef. It saves having to trawl through the fine print."

Asda and Tesco have offered a list of foods that do not contain British beef by-products. Tesco will differentiate between its Irish and British beef products for the first time. Sainsbury's announced yesterday that it would label all foods containing beef or beef derivatives.

CPC, the manufacturer of Bovril and Knorr products, is considering using "no British beef" signs on its labels, and British beef may be dropped from Oxo cubes for the first time. Even fish and chips are not immune from the beef threat, as many shops use beef lard for frying.

United Biscuits, whose brand names include McVitie's and KP, said it was considering ways to keep British beef out of its foods. The company exports 25 per cent of its products.

Nestlé said that all its confectionery was imported from Germany and France but a small proportion of chilled desserts contained gelatine. "They will be affected. We are very concerned by the European Union move," a spokesman said.

Boots confirmed that beef was contained in a small number of its cosmetics and medicine. But the company declined to name the products or the source of the beef. Beef is also involved in the manufacturing process of Benylin expectorant cough medicine. Max Factor was considering whether to continue the use of beef tallow in its lipstick range.

An emergency board meeting was held yesterday at Seven Seas Health Care, the market leader in vitamin supplement capsules. Alan Clements, the commercial director, said: "The gelatine used in all Seven Seas products does not derive from British beef or beef by-products. If the EU ban includes our products, that would be a travesty. The gelatine comes from German beef, is of pharmaceutical grade and much better than that used in confectionery."

Roger Jones of Croda Colloids, a leading gelatine manufacturer, said yesterday that there was no substitute for gelatine as a gelling agent, emulsifier and stabiliser. Most gelatine used in confectionery is made from pigskin, but is often blended with gelatine from beef bones and hides. "It is impossible to guarantee that a gelatine does not contain anything derived from British beef, because there is a world trade in the raw materials of beef bones and cow hides. It follows that some of the gelatine manufactured in this country is made with imported materials."

Marks & Spencer confirmed that sales of beef products were down sharply. A spokeswoman said: "We have detected a switch to other animal protein, such as poultry, lamb and pork."

Tesco's growing export business, mainly to Cyprus and the Middle East, was likely to be affected. "We will obviously have to take stock of what is happening and see how it is going to affect us, but clearly it will have an impact."

Sales of venison have soared. Brecon Court Deer Farm at Llansoy, near Chepstow, Gwent, sold out last night for the first time in its seven-year history. Vension steaks sell at £6.20 a pound.

Barbara McElney, the owner of the 180-acre farm, said: "We have had faxes for mail-order supplies from all over the country. There is not a steak left in the shop."

France says mass slaughter may be only option

By Our Foreign Staff

EUROPE

BRITAIN should slaughter its entire cattle herd if questions persist on the danger posed to humans by BSE, the French Agriculture Minister said yesterday.

"*If it is a question of public health, then why not?*" Philippe Vasseur told *La Tribune* newspaper, adding that France was anxious to help solve the crisis and called for European solidarity to aid the British beef industry. He accepted that British farmers would have to be paid compensation.

M Vasseur's comments were the latest effort by the French Government to convince the public that BSE is almost entirely a British phenomenon and that beef produced in France is quite safe. On Monday the French authorities slaughtered a herd of cattle in Brittany after one was found to be infected with BSE.

France has introduced a system to enable consumers to distinguish imported meat from home-produced beef. French meat will carry a red, white and blue label with the initials VF, standing for "Viande Française" — a somewhat unhappy choice since the initials VF might also stand for "vache folle" or mad cow.

IRELAND

Irish police launched a massive security operation yesterday along the border to prevent farmers in Northern Ireland from smuggling cattle into the Republic to beat the ban on British beef. Extra officers were drafted into border areas amid fears that smuggling could harm the reputation of the Republic's beef industry which is worth £5 billion.

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, rejected calls from farmers in Northern Ireland to treat their beef separately from beef on mainland Britain.

GERMANY

A woman showing the symptoms of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease worked in a Bavarian restaurant where she often handled cow brains, a doctor said yesterday.

Bastian Conrad, a Munich neurologist treating the 36-year-old woman, said she had lost consciousness and was dying. She was showing CJD symptoms but he could not make a complete diagnosis until after her death.

PORTUGAL

Thirty six reported cases of BSE have been exclusively among cattle imported from Britain, officials said yesterday.

Portuguese farmers are reluctant to undertake inspections or reveal cases because the Government does not pay compensation for the slaughter of infected animals.

ITALY

Meat importers said they would use other European suppliers in place of British beef. McDonald's Italia issued a statement saying it used only Spanish beef.

A realistic guide to avoiding risk

IN 1951, when a young officer in a Scottish territorial regiment, I was taken back to tea by my squadron leader. He strode through the nursery where his young family were having tea, turned to me and said: "We won't drink that — kid's drink." We finished a bottle of brandy in his study.

There has always been a macho component to choosing food. Sitting in a West End restaurant this week it was interesting to guess which diners would make a point of ordering the roast beef and who would opt for the safety of fish, noodles and seaweed. My squadron leader would have been proud to see how many men were not frightened by a prion and defied this infective agent by ordering beef.

Ordering a totally safe, beef-free dish is not easy. The soup with dumplings might have looked safe but the best dumplings are made from beef suet, and who can be certain that beef extracts have not been added to the soup?

er oil and multi-vitamins, not to mention the other nostrums wrapped in capsules of gelatine whose origin is unknown.

To be 100 per cent certain that in future no transmissible spongiform encephalopathy will get the chance to attack your grey cells, you would have to become vegetarian, eat organically grown fresh vegetables, eschew fish unless cooked in plain vegetable oil, renounce pastry, biscuits, cakes unless home-made and avoid taking capsules or having a sweet pastille with coffee. We must all have eaten products made from beef butchered before precautions against BSE were introduced.

I will continue to avoid composite beef dishes, sausages and pies and similar food and will not buy beef until the results of the present research are known. But I certainly would not bother about the small amounts in vitamin capsules or Norfolk dumplings, nor would I recommend that my patients did.

DR THOMAS

WHAT'S IN YOUR SHOPPING BASKET

NO BEEF CONTENT

- Bread with vegetable fat
- Bisto powder
- Marmite
- Yeast extracts
- Tinned Heinz pork sausages and beans
- Self-raising and plain flour
- Campbell's meatball products
- Ginsters sausage rolls
- Walls pork sausages
- McCain pizzas
- Walker's crisps including the beef and onion variety
- McVitie's ginger cakes
- Tinned vegetables
- Custard powder
- Linda McCartney's product range including pies and sausages
- Muesli
- Butter
- Wholewheat pasta
- Kellogg's Frosties and Ricicles
- Quaker Oats
- Puff Wheat biscuits
- Full-fat yoghurts
- Body Shop lipstick
- Vegetarian labelled cheese
- Cadbury's Flake
- Unfined fruit juice
- Coca-Cola
- Fox's vegetarian-approved biscuits
- Low-sugar Polo mints
- Dried fruit
- Snowcrest vegetarian jellies
- Roe
- Anchovy paste
- Royal Jelly
- Honey
- Caviar
- Pasta
- Tesco sausage rolls; healthy eating coleslaw

PRODUCTS WITH BRITISH BEEF CONTENT

- Basset's Liquorice Allsorts
- McVitie's Digestives; Home Wheat milk chocolate biscuits
- Bread with lard or animal fat
- Heinz soups
- Callard & Bowser nougat
- Campbell's oxtail soup
- Beefburgers;
- Ginsters Cornish pasties
- Birds Eye chilli con carne, pre-packed shepherd's pie, spaghetti bolognese and frozen sausage and mash
- Nestlé chilled desserts
- Most pork sausages
- Bisto Best gravy granules
- Oxo cubes
- Fray Bentos meat pies
- Rowntree's jelly
- Sainsbury's gravy granules
- Frozen cakes using lard
- Sweet mincemeat
- Christmas pudding
- Pork pies
- Ginger nut biscuits
- Tesco seafood cocktail
- Fruit flavoured gums
- Iced buns
- Fruit Fool desserts
- Tesco chicken wings and spicy tomato marinade
- Suet

PRODUCTS WITH OVERSEAS BEEF CONTENT

- Rowntrees wine gums and fruit pastilles
- Seven Seas vitamin supplement capsules
- Bisto turkey and chicken gravy granules
- Bovril; Knorr stock cubes
- Birds Eye roast beef and gravy and steak and kidney pie
- Walls ice cream
- Cheese
- Fined fruit juices
- Heinz and Farley baby foods
- Cadbury's chocolate fingers
- Very low fat yoghurts
- Findus Food pre-packed dinners
- Wine fined with gelatine
- Turkish Delight
- Marshmallows
- Many low-fat spreads
- Chewing gum
- Thickset marmalade
- Safeway's chicken stew with dumplings
- Pâté
- Boots chicken casserole
- Frankfurters
- Salami
- Heinz sandwich fillers
- Paxo stuffing mix
- Baxters Royal Game soup
- Canned ravioli
- Dumpling mix
- Fromage frais
- Tinned sponge puddings

Pork and poultry in the clear

EXPERIMENTS

PORK and chicken are unlikely to be affected by the BSE scare, experiments at the Central Veterinary Laboratory have shown (Nigel Hawkes writes).

While the symptoms of BSE can be induced in pigs by injecting material from infected cows into their brains, feeding them the same material does not cause the disease.

The same experiments have been carried out with chickens, with even more clear-cut results. They could not be infected with BSE either by feeding or injection.

Sheep could be more of a potential problem. While scrapie has been present in sheep for at least 200 years, there is no evidence that it can cross to man. But sheep fed BSE-contaminated material do develop the disease.

This opens up the possibility that BSE-infected sheep could be more of a threat than those with scrapie, but there is no evidence of this happening.

For a minimum investment of just £184 and simply by using your existing phone line, we'll put your business in touch with the people who really matter. Namely your customers, colleagues and suppliers. We'll equip your PC's with the latest modem, software and cabling so you can send and receive all kinds of information. Be it letters, spreadsheets, invoices, customers' orders or faxes. You will also be able to access a wealth of useful business information. All at the touch of a button. Communicate from your PC, it's cheaper than you might think.

Freefone 0800 800 800 workinbs@boat.bt.com

PC COMMUNICATIONS *Call today for more information*

Work smarter not just harder

BT

DENSEY CLYNE

Mock orange seed

Seeds of mortality sow fear on island

BY NICK NUTTALL
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

AN ALIEN tree brought to the Caribbean by Victorian botanists is rampaging through Jamaica's Blue Mountains, threatening scores of rare species and the country's coffee plants.

Scientists from the University of Wales, Bangor, and the West Indies, said yesterday that finding a way of curbing the mock orange was a race against time. The Blue Mountains are home to more than 500 rare plants of which 275 are unique to Jamaica. Dr Devi Prasad, from the University of the West Indies, Kingston, said he feared many of these will be lost if the tree, *Pittosporum undulatum*, is allowed to spread unchecked.

The tree has such a dense crown that it is blotting out sunlight, killing plants which stop soil being washed away during heavy rainfall.

Details of the threat will emerge tomorrow when the scientists get £43,000 under the Darwin Initiative, a British Department of the Environment programme set up after the Rio Earth Summit in 1992 to conserve wildlife in the developing world.

The mock orange was brought to Jamaica in the 19th century from Australia by Kew Gardens, but spread partly due to local birds adapting to eat the fruit and then spreading seeds.

Communist regime demands support for handpicked councillors

Hong Kong's civil servants told by China to toe line

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

CHINA has put more pressure on Hong Kong by telling senior civil servants here yesterday that they must demonstrate their support for the Peking-appointed Provisional Legislative Council, which will be established before the 1997 takeover.

This places civil servants in the position of having to support a policy opposed by their present masters, the Hong Kong Government.

In recent days, China's appointed 150-member Preliminary Working Committee — which is establishing the next government apparatus — has announced the abolition of the present wholly elected Legislative Council in 1997, and denied membership in the provisional body to any democrats currently serving.

In Peking, Chen Ziying, deputy director of the State Council's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office, said that senior civil servants would have to show their support for the provisional council, but did not say whether civil servants could continue in office if they failed to do so. Because the provisional council will be operating months before the takeover, there will be, in effect, two lawmaking bodies sharing some members, although the laws enacted or abolished by the new council would not come into effect until after 1997.

A member of the Preparatory Committee, Eric Lee, who serves on the present council, said he objected to the Peking proposal because civil servants must be neutral. Anson Chan, the Chief Secretary, gave a warning against "any action that in any way erodes confidence or makes civil servants feel uncomfortable about the transition and about life after 1997".

Cheung Man-kwong, a member of the Democratic Party which holds the largest number of seats of any party in the council, said: "If this is really the position of the Chinese Government, I think they better take Hong Kong back immediately — no need to wait until 1997".

☐ **Patten attacked:** Sir Anthony Jolliffe, a former Lord Mayor of London, called himself "a champion for China", attacking British and American stances towards Peking and calling Chris Patten "a failure", the newspaper *Eastern Express* reported in Hong Kong. Sir Anthony, a businessman trading with China, also defended China's stance on Taiwan. Attacking Mr Patten, he said: "Britain should send a man of stature to Hong Kong rather than a former MP who has lost his seat in an election. Sending a failure to Hong Kong to negotiate with the Chinese is an insult to the Chinese people." *(AFP)*

Peking rules out a Taiwan summit

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

THE conciliatory mood in China-Taiwan relations after Taipei's presidential election seems to have been shortlived, with Peking yesterday ruling out a bilateral summit.

The United States carrier, *USS Independence*, was sailing back to her base in Japan, leaving only her sister ship, *USS Nimitz*, on patrol off eastern Taiwan. The *Nimitz's* presence is being reviewed every day.

Yesterday Shen Guofang, the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, repeated Peking's standard preconditions before any high-level meeting can take place between President Jiang Zemin of China and Lee Teng-hui, his Taiwanese counterpart, who savoured an electoral triumph on Saturday despite China's attempts to intimidate voters.

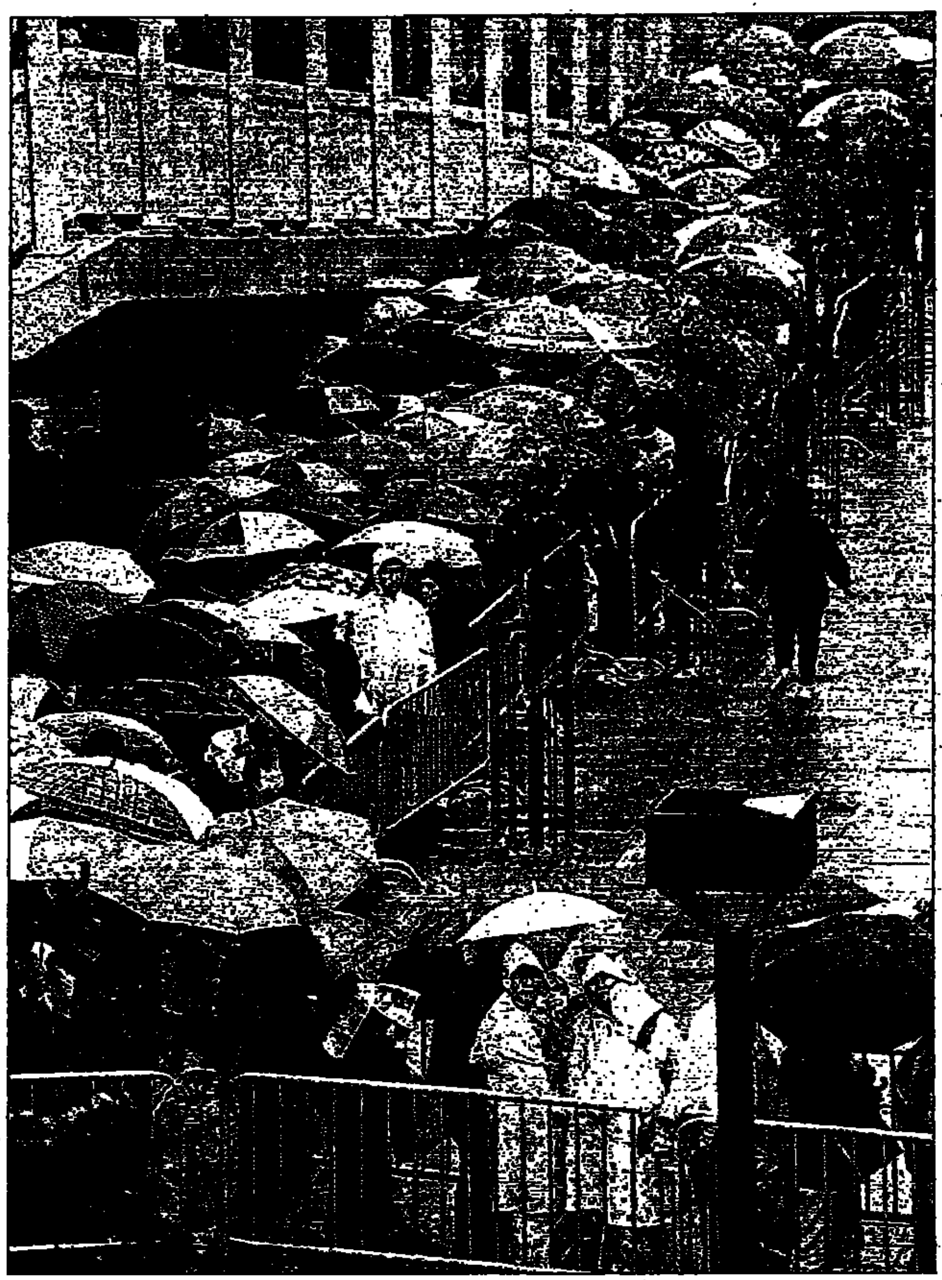
"I think this [summit] is not on our agenda, because we would still like to see whether the Taiwan side will stop its activities to create two Chinas or one China, one Taiwan," Mr Shen said, referring to Taipei's push for independence. "If they cease such activities, then relations between the two sides can be relaxed and after that we can discuss anything else." Taiwan, he stated, could enjoy unofficial trade and cultural ties with the rest of the world, but could not seek diplomatic recognition or membership of the United Nations. Peking regards Taiwan as a renegade province.

Mr Shen said that although the "door is open" to Taiwan, Taipei was continuing its activities to "split the motherland". He also accused a "certain country", clearly America, of interfering in China's internal affairs by selling weapons to Taiwan.

"The door is closed by them [Taiwan]," Mr Shen noted. But he said if Taiwan stopped its "splittist" acts, and foreign forces ceased interfering in China's internal affairs, "we will be waiting by the door".

Mr Shen, however, did not resume the personal vitriolic attacks on President Lee — the only post-election sign yesterday of a softer Peking stance.

Patten: called "failure"



Thousands queue in Hong Kong for the special passport giving them visa-free access to Britain and many other countries as the deadline draws near

Passport fever in colony

BY JONATHAN MIRSKY

WITH 8,000 people applying daily for the British Dependent Territories Citizens' Passport, the Hong Kong Government has been forced to open special facilities to cope with the rush.

The deadline for applications is at the end of this month. A spokesman for the Immigration Department said yesterday that up to 80,000 people may apply before then.

There are 2.2 million people among the colony's six million population who are eligible for the passport, which gives the holder visa-free access to many countries, including Britain. The measure was announced by John Major during his recent visit to the colony. The passport does not, however, give the holder residential rights in Britain.

Most Hong Kong visitors only spend a few weeks or up to two months in Britain. Few remain behind illegally. Those who want to emigrate prefer to go to Canada, the United States and Australia.

The question nagging Hong Kong citizens who have established residence abroad is whether they will be granted Chinese citizenship if they return here after China gains sovereignty over the colony in 1997. This week Peking announced that the right would be extended to them if they refused to claim consular protection from those countries for which they hold a second passport. But many are objecting to this caveat because of uncertainty about the nature of Communist rule.

About 500,000 Hong Kong citizens, who hold foreign passports, have returned here after establishing their right to abode abroad.

Kashmir mosque siege ends

Delhi: Fifteen separatists, who took refuge in Kashmir's holiest Muslim shrine on Sunday after a gun battle with police, left peacefully last night as clerics vouched for the safety of hair from the Prophet Muhammad's beard kept in a vault (Christopher Thomas writes).

The Prophet's hair once disappeared from the Hazratbal mosque on the shore of Dal Lake in Srinagar, capital of the Kashmir Valley, prompting riots until it was found and declared authentic.

More than two dozen gunmen from the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front took refuge there. The remaining gunmen were also surrendering, police said.

Grenade attack

Lucknow, India: Seven people were killed and about 100 injured when grenades were hurled at a low-caste politician addressing an election rally in Uttar Pradesh. The politician was among the dead. *(Reuter)*

Rescuers die

Johannesburg: Ten rescuers trying to save a miner were killed in a rockfall at Tshikondeni coalmine in Northern Province, the mine company Iscor said. The miner's fate is unknown. *(Reuter)*

Mafia sentence

Rome: A former leader of Italy's defunct Socialist Party, Giacomo Mancini, 79, has been found guilty of links to the Calabrian Mafia and sentenced to 3½ years' jail in Palmi. *(Reuter)*

'Times' award

Tania Branigan, a student at King's College, Cambridge, has won *The Times* Royal Mail Young Foreign Correspondent of the Year Competition. She receives £2,000 and two tickets to Thailand.

Wedded to work

Lake Mary, Florida: Seven Postal Service workers here who cannot remove their wedding rings have been told to have them cut off or lose their jobs under safety rules banning jewellery at work. *(AFP)*

Sierra Leone rebels in peace talks

SIERRA LEONE'S rebel leader, Corporal Foday Sankoh, emerged after five years in the shadows yesterday to meet government mediators in the Ivory Coast (Sam Kiley writes).

The talks were aimed at hammering out a peace deal before the country's newly-elected civilian Government takes over this week. Corporal Sankoh left his bush hideout to be flown to the talks by Red Cross helicopter, accompanied by the Ivory Coast's Foreign Minister as a guarantee of his safety.

The first meeting between Corporal Sankoh and Brigadier Julius Maada Bio, the outgoing Sierra Leone head of state, concentrated on what the rebel soldiers in the Revolutionary Democratic Front will do if a peace deal is reached. At least 10,000 people have been killed and 2 million displaced in Sierra Leone's civil war. Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, a Muslim lawyer, is expected to take over as the country's President on Friday.

☐ **Women killed:** A number of women acting as intermediaries between the rebels and authorities were killed and 25 were injured when a rebel soldier opened fire because they had failed to gain government guarantees. *(AFP)*

Battle for tourists leaves ugly scars on Victoria Falls

FROM MICHAEL HARTNACK IN LIVINGSTONE, ZAMBIA

HEEDING warnings that the tourist influx is wrecking the natural beauty of the world's mightiest waterfall, experts were meeting in the Zambian border town of Livingstone to try to agree a two-nation conservation plan.

Vicious rivalry over tourist dollars last September led to shots being fired from the Zambian bank on a Zimbabwean launch, plying the island-strewn reaches of the Zambezi river above the Victoria Falls. More than half a million visitors each year follow in the footsteps of the Scottish explorer David Livingstone, who saw the falls in 1856 and named them for Britain's reigning monarch. "Sights so lovely," he wrote, "must have been viewed by angels in their flight."

Nowadays the thunder of the 300ft-high and mile-wide waters could be drowned by the noise of spotter planes, helicopters and boats of sightseers, while Zambia's Eastern Cataract is dry most of the year because of a hydroelectric plant upstream. As a result, Zambia's section of the falls' rainforest, declared a world heritage site by the United Nations, is dying.

Bungee-jumpers leap from the historic suspension bridge, built at Cecil Rhodes's behest at the turn of the century. The whitewater rafting course in the downstream gorges will be drowned by the Batoka dam by 2006. Its waters may also be contaminated by cholera. The flintlock musket Livingstone carried to fight off Arab slave traders might come in equally handy today to deal with muggers from among the estimated 50,000 unemployed in this economically stagnant town named in his honour.

A detailed environmental impact assessment, prepared for the Governments of Zimbabwe and Zambia by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, urges the adoption of a single strategy and a two-nation trust, which could see a threefold growth in tourism by 2005, say the authors. Last year Zimbabwe earned £72 million from tourism, a vital boost for President Mugabe's economy.

The assessment warns delegates of Zambia's growing envy at Zimbabwe's success in attracting tourist development, allegedly at the expense of shared natural resources: "The marked difference between each side is a cause for concern because it may get in the way of rational planning and management."

The experts also protest against the construction of a bridge over the Zambezi in an unspoilt wilderness area by a influential consortium, including the Zimbabwean Vice-President Joshua Nkomo.

SAVE £20*
ON SELECTED ECHO PRODUCTS
All prices include VAT. Offer ends 31/3/96
No need to tighten your belt.
With Mercury MiniCall.
0500 505 505

MERCURY MINICALL* KEEPS YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR BUSINESS.

- NO CONTRACT
- NO MONTHLY BILLS
- NATIONWIDE COVERAGE

Can be called from any phone**
Uses standard battery lasting up to 6 weeks

FOR DETAILS OF OUR COMPLETE PRODUCT RANGE FREECALL 0500 505 505 (QUOTING REF: B2B)

**Calls are charged at 39p per minute (economy rate), 49p at all other times. Calls made from payphones, mobile phones and other networks are subject to network availability and prevailing rates of those networks. *£20 off RRP on white and purple ECHO products. Offer price £89 99. Offer ends 31/3/96.

MERCURY MINICALL

BRAVO EXPRESS	LIFESTYLE PLUS	ECHO*
£89.99	£69.99	£89.99

MERCURY COMMUNICATIONS

Cheaper car insurance
Call Admiral now
0800 600 800
ADMIRAL

THE TIMES
Complimentary Audiobooks

The Times, in association with Penguin Books, offers you ten complimentary audiobooks, listed below. The bestselling novels, autobiographies and classics are read by familiar voices from stage and screen, or by the authors themselves, and are recorded on high quality cassettes. They have been selected to appeal to every member of the family and are available for only £1.98 each to cover postage and handling (the normal retail price is £7.99 each). A minimum of two must be ordered accompanied by one token per audiobook. You can also buy a further 20 Penguin titles at half the normal price (no tokens needed). The titles include classics such as *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson, *Sense and Sensibility* by Jane Austen or *Middlemarch* by George Eliot. A full list of these audiobooks appeared on March 16 and 18.

Please enter quantity of each free audiobook required, enclosing two tokens from *The Times* plus a cheque/PO for £1.98 p&p per audiobook payable to Penguin Books Ltd. You must order at least two books. Send to: *Times/Penguin* Audiobooks Offer, PO Box 180, Horley, West Sussex, RH6 0GD.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms .... First Name ....
Surname ....
Address ....
.... Postcode ....

Qty	Ref	Title/Author	P&P
	01	A Postillion Struck by Lightning — Dirk Bogarde	£1.98
	02	Come to Grief — Dick Francis	£1.98
	03	No Night is too Long — Barbara Vine	£1.98
	04	Heart of Darkness — Joseph Conrad	£1.98
	05	Animal Farm — George Orwell	£1.98
	06	Hard Times — Charles Dickens	£1.98
	07	Mrs Tiggy-Winkle and Friends — Beatrix Potter	£1.98
	08	Shadow Over Babylon — David Mason	£1.98
	09	Dracula — Bram Stoker	£1.98
	10	Kidnapped — Robert Louis Stevenson	£1.98

TERMS AND CONDITIONS
1. This offer is only open to residents of the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and The Republic of Ireland. 2. Readers can order up to ten complimentary audiobooks by sending one token and £1.98 per audiobook (minimum order of two audiobooks). No tokens are required for half price books. 3. Cheques should be made payable to Penguin Books Ltd. 4. No photocopies of tokens or application forms will be accepted. 5. Please allow 30 days for delivery. 6. Offer is subject to availability. Penguin reserves the right to substitute an appropriate title. 7. Offer closes April 30, 1996.

THE TIMES
AUDIO BOOKS
TOKEN 10

هكذا من الأصل

Nostalgic Dole pays tribute to values of Kansas heartland

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN RUSSELL, KANSAS

US PRIMARIES

BENEATH vast skies on the great plains of the American heartland lies Russell, Kansas, a speck of 4,800 people that is 1,500 miles from either coast, 250 miles from the nearest metropolis and a throwback to an earlier, more innocent, age for which modern America feels so nostalgic.

Here the air is clean, the climate bracing, the townsfolk all know each other, greet strangers warmly and flock to church on Sunday. Wheat, cattle and a little local oil provide work for all who want it, and while wages are low $30,000 (£19,000) buys a decent home on a tidy street. Few bother to lock their doors, the only recent offence of note being the draining of the town's water tower by some prankster.

It is the sort of thoroughly wholesome place that every presidential candidate would love to say he came from, and Bob Dole actually does. As he was cementing the Republican nomination in yesterday's California primary, the 72-year-old senator made an emotional return to his birthplace to show America "the real Bob Dole" behind that dour image, to counter the charge that he is a creature of Washington, and to make Russell work for him like Hope, Arkansas, did for President Clinton in 1992.

He was the "heartland" candidate, he told a rally in the high school gym where the whole town gathered to give him a hero's welcome and he twice had to choke back tears. "Anyone who wants to understand me must first understand the community of Russell." He said the town had shaped and steeled him. It had taught him discipline, integrity, hard work and self-reliance. He had his limitations as a candidate but "it was here I learnt that doing is better than talking ... it was here that I learnt not to wear my heart on my sleeve. It was here I learnt to feel deeply for my country and my family, and that some things are worth living for and some worth sacrificing for." Braving an icy prairie wind he laid flowers at his parents' grave, then visited the modest Maple Street bungalow where his family weathered the terrible dust storms of the 1930s and lived for two years in the basement during the Depression so the house upstairs could be let.

With his two sisters, who still live in Russell, Mr Dole crossed the lines of the once great Union Pacific railway to the grain silos where his father laboured, then headed up Main Street. He passed the shop where his mother gave sewing lessons to help to make ends meet. He greeted Alice Mills, his 96-year-old former mathematics teacher, who complained that he was looking thin. He lingered at the old Dawson's Drugstore where he worked as a schoolboy.

Far more importantly it was to Dawsons that the people of Russell came to contribute $1,800 (£1,200) for the operations the young Bob Dole needed after returning in a body cast from the Second World War. He spent 39 months fighting for his life and overcoming his disabilities before law school.

At Banker's Clothing Store Mr Dole met Adolf Reisig, a childhood friend who designed a cast to help him to strengthen his shattered right arm. His last stop was at the courthouse where he began a political career as county attorney that would take him to Washington the year Dwight Eisenhower, America's only Kansan President, retired. On the same courthouse lawn, Mr Dole launched his 1976 vice-presidential campaign, broke down as he recalled how the people of Russell had helped him and was rescued by President Ford who rose to lead the crowd in applause.

It is a compelling life story of a sort now required for presidential candidates but has the added virtue of veracity. Contrast it with the magically named Hope as the place that shaped President Clinton but who, in fact, spent his formative years in the far less savoury Arkansas gambling resort of Hot Springs.

It is also a story the naturally reticent Mr Dole has only begun to exploit in this, his third and final presidential bid. Given America's present angry mood, even this consummate Washington insider of 36 years has realised the necessity of highlighting his Kansas roots.

Russell hardly objects to becoming a campaign prop for its most famous son. The exploitation is mutual. A large billboard directs travellers on the nearby highway to "Bob Dole" country. The town's shops are selling Bob Dole T-shirts, mugs and baseball caps. Its Mayor, Neal Farmer, is already dreaming of a presidential library. "It's hard to tell which was the biggest gusher," said Jim Joule, editor of the *Russell Daily News*. "The discovery of oil in 1923 or Dole becoming a politician. Both things have been very beneficial to Russell."

Bob Dole brandishes a root beer mug given to him at a rally in Russell yesterday. He sold root beer as a schoolboy

Washington: Edmund Muskie, a lawyer and former senator and Secretary of State, died, aged 81, early yesterday after a heart attack. He had had triple bypass surgery at Georgetown University Medical Centre after the attack last Thursday. Mr Muskie served as Secretary of State under President Carter in 1980 and 1981. ***(Reuter)***

Obituary, page 21

Unions pledge $35m for Clinton war-chest

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

SWALLOWING their past misgivings, America's biggest federation of trade unions has endorsed President Clinton for re-election and promised to help him with a huge campaign war-chest.

All but two of 78 unions, representing 13 million workers, gave their backing to Mr Clinton during a Washington conference of the American Federation of Labour and Congress of Industrial Organisations. The two exceptions, the Teamsters and San Francisco's Longshoremen, said they wanted more time to consider their decision.

The endorsement was greeted as a declaration of war by Republicans. They were upset that the unions will raise a fund of $35 million (£23 million) by imposing a 15 cent monthly levy on members.

In this way, the Republicans claimed, the 40 per cent of union members who voted Republican in the last presidential election will be forced to contribute to Democratic coffers against their wishes. The Republicans filed complaints with the Federal Election Commission, accusing the union federation of breaking election laws that restrict the unions' use of workers' money.

The funds will go for radio and television commercials and a mobilisation drive targeted at 75 constituencies where Republican incumbents are considered vulnerable.

The federation endorsed Mr Clinton despite its fury three years ago over his enactment of the North American Free Trade Agreement, which the unions say has caused the loss of thousands of American jobs to Mexico. The unions recognise, though, that they have nowhere else to go in an election that pits Mr Clinton against Bob Dole.

Their aim is to retain the White House in Democratic hands and to win back Congress for the Democrats before the Republicans become too entrenched.

America's trade unions are promising a new solidarity and militancy, after years of decline, under the federation's abrasive new leader, John Sweeney. He delighted delegates by describing Newt Gingrich, House Speaker, and the Republican majority, as "Newty and the Blowfish".

☐ **Ankara:** Hillary Clinton laid a wreath here at the tomb of Kemal Ataturk, the father of the Turkish republic, on the third day of a goodwill tour in Europe. She will make a speech in Istanbul tomorrow on women's and children's rights. *(Reuter)*

British tourists tell of balloon crash in Rocky Mountains

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

BRITISH tourists in the Rocky Mountains yesterday described how they were nearly killed on a hot air balloon sightseeing trip when the craft struck a moutain ridge and caught fire. One man spoke of "panic as the flames licked up around us" and counted himself fortunate to be alive.

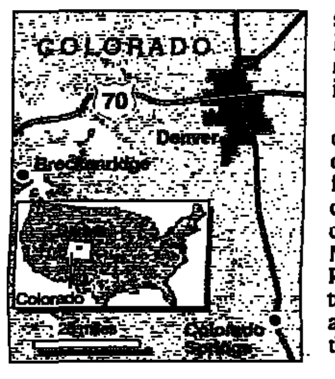
Nine passengers from Britain were in the basket of the balloon when it was caught by a cross wind and blown onto the ridge. One woman was seriously hurt. The gust caught the balloon as it was preparing to land on an 8,000ft-high plateau surrounded by peaks.

The impact caused the basket to topple over and the gas-fuelled heating equipment burst into flames. The basket, too, caught fire as it was being dragged along the snowy ridge out of control. Some of the passengers fell from the basket, others had to scramble for safety, before the flaming remains of the balloon flew high in to air. It was later retrieved 12 miles from the site of the crash.

The accident happened in good weather conditions near Colorado Springs, two hours' drive from the ski resort of Breckenridge where the 45-minute pleasure flight began and where many of the passengers were on holiday.

One of them, John McCulloch, of Edinburgh, said: "Suddenly the balloon lost height and, despite the efforts of the pilot, we bumped into the hillside.

"The heater was knocked over and the basket caught fire. People, including myself, tumbled out as we were dragged along the top of a ridge for about 50 yards. As you can imagine, there was a bit of a panic as the flames licked up around us. Fortunately the basket was on the ground. We didn't gain height again."



The basket was up-ended when it hit a rock or tree stump. "We were being bowled along but were unable to put the brakes on, as it were," Mr McCulloch said. He added: "By the time I got on my feet everybody had been thrown out. It was all over in a minute or two. A few people had their hair singed and a couple looked to have broken bones."

Margaret Lowday, 43, from London, was taken by helicopter to a hospital in Denver, the nearest big city, and was yesterday said to be in a serious condition. Three other people taken to a local hospital, Joanne Orton, 30, of Aylestone, Leicestershire, Brian Kinghorn, 42, of Greystoke, Cumbria, and Mr McCulloch, were held overnight and were yesterday resting in their hotel rooms.

Mr Kinghorn said: "All I can remember is the burners coming down in a flash of flame. The balloon really caught the ground and turned completely upside down." Mr McCulloch said that the pilot, Rick Lang, cut him free from a tangle of balloon equipment as the craft careered towards the edge of the ridge.

"I thought I had jumped out but could not understand why the balloon was trailing me along," said Mr McCulloch. "It kept lifting me and setting me back down. I couldn't get it off me." Mr Lang, whose company is called Mile High Adventures, was not seriously hurt in the crash. He could not be contacted yesterday.

Mr McCulloch, who said that he would be unlikely to take another balloon ride, discounted any suggestions that the basket was carrying too many people.

"It was a large basket and there was plenty of room. The balloon could easily lift our weight. It was just bad luck that we got into a cross wind.

Balloon trips are a popular form of activity in and around the ski resorts of Colorado and Utah. Federal Aviation Administration officials are to investigate the crash.

Grand Canyon flooded to repair human damage

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A DAWN roar yesterday heralded the opening of four valves to send billions of gallons of water gushing down the Grand Canyon in the hope of repairing some of the damage done to it by humans.

Bruce Babbitt, America's Interior Secretary, spoke of "a new beginning" as he pushed a button, cranked a lever and turned a wheel to open the first valve in the Glen Canyon Dam, which holds back the Colorado River.

Several dozen scientists monitored the experiment to reshape the 33-year-old dam's operations. Onlookers watched from 710ft above as the first 8ft-wide valve released a jet of green water that gushed out several hundred feet. By mid-morning the three other outlets had been opened.

Enough water to supply the whole of Los Angeles for seven months will flow down the canyon during the week-long operation.

The 120 billion gallons which will gush from the dam at the head of the canyon are designed to imitate natural seasonal flooding that used to replenish the canyon's beaches and restore its wildlife habitats.

Water still churns through the spectacular gash in the earth's crust, but whereas for millennia it was warm and reddish brown — hence the Spanish name *Colorado* — it is now cold and clear.

The silt that used to give the river its colour now builds up behind the dam at the bottom of Lake Powell, while the lake's deep, still water cools steadily before being released through hydro-electric turbines.

The "new" Colorado has been steadily eroding the narrow beaches at the bottom of the canyon instead of renewing them.

Meanwhile, eddies and backwaters that used to support fish and waterfowl have been filled with debris since seasonal flooding stopped with the building of the dam in 1963.

Scientists working for the government agencies that run the Grand Canyon National Park and monitor its ecosystems hope the seven-day flood will deposit 12 million tonnes of sand on the canyon's beaches. Flowing at an extra 45,000cu ft per second, however, the water could simply strip away what sand remains.

More than 100 observers "in boats and helicopters and hanging off the canyon walls" will try to ensure the experiment does more good than harm, an official said.

Campers and walkers should be in no danger because the water level will rise gradually, by no more than 10ft in all.

But electricity companies which buy power from the dam for six western states have accepted the attempt at reconciliation with nature reluctantly, at best. They regard it as a waste of water that could cost them $100 million (£65 million) over the next ten years.

Montana Freemen are seized

BY QUENTIN LETTS

FEDERAL agents moved in on a white militia group in Montana, arresting two of its leaders and surrounding its remote ranch with vehicles.

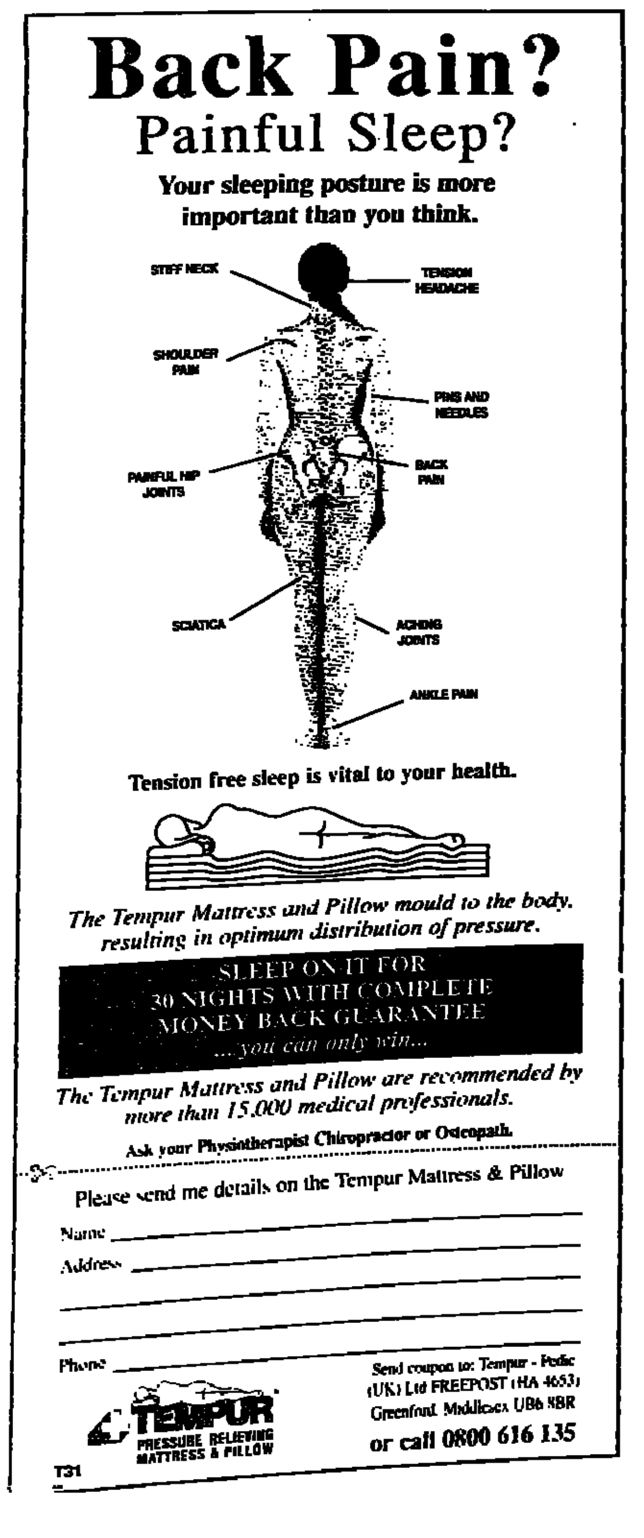
The action against the "Freemen of Montana" comes after a year-long softly softly surveillance of the group by law enforcers who are anxious to avoid a repetition of the violent end to the siege in Waco, Texas.

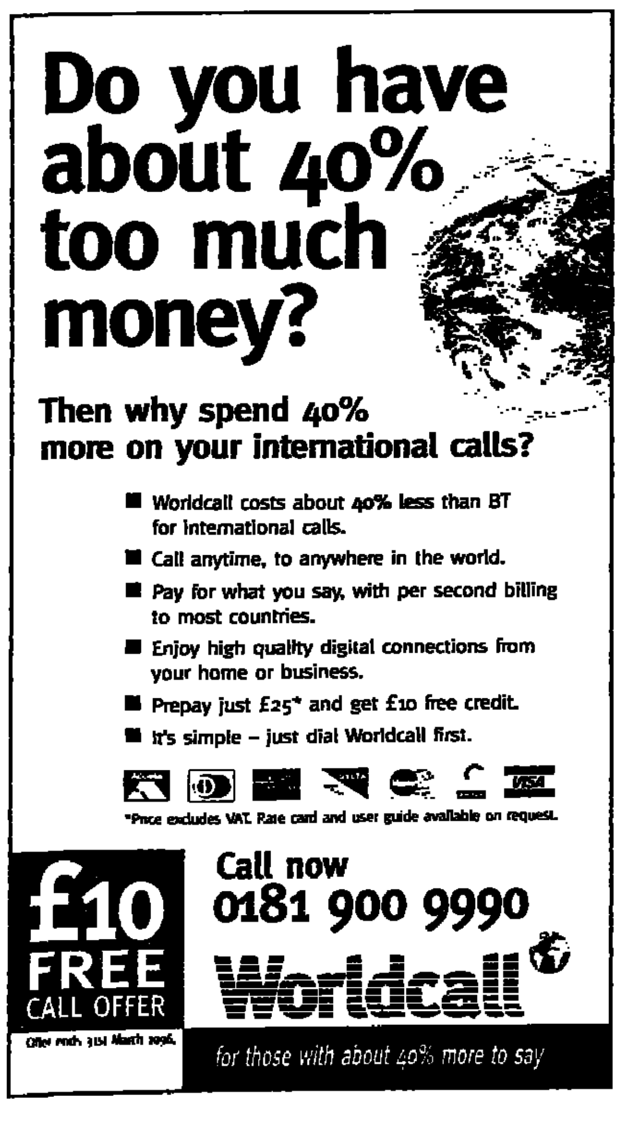
The two ringleaders, LeRoy Schweitzer and Daniel Peterson, were seized near the far-flung farmhouse where the heavily-armed group has squatted for several months.

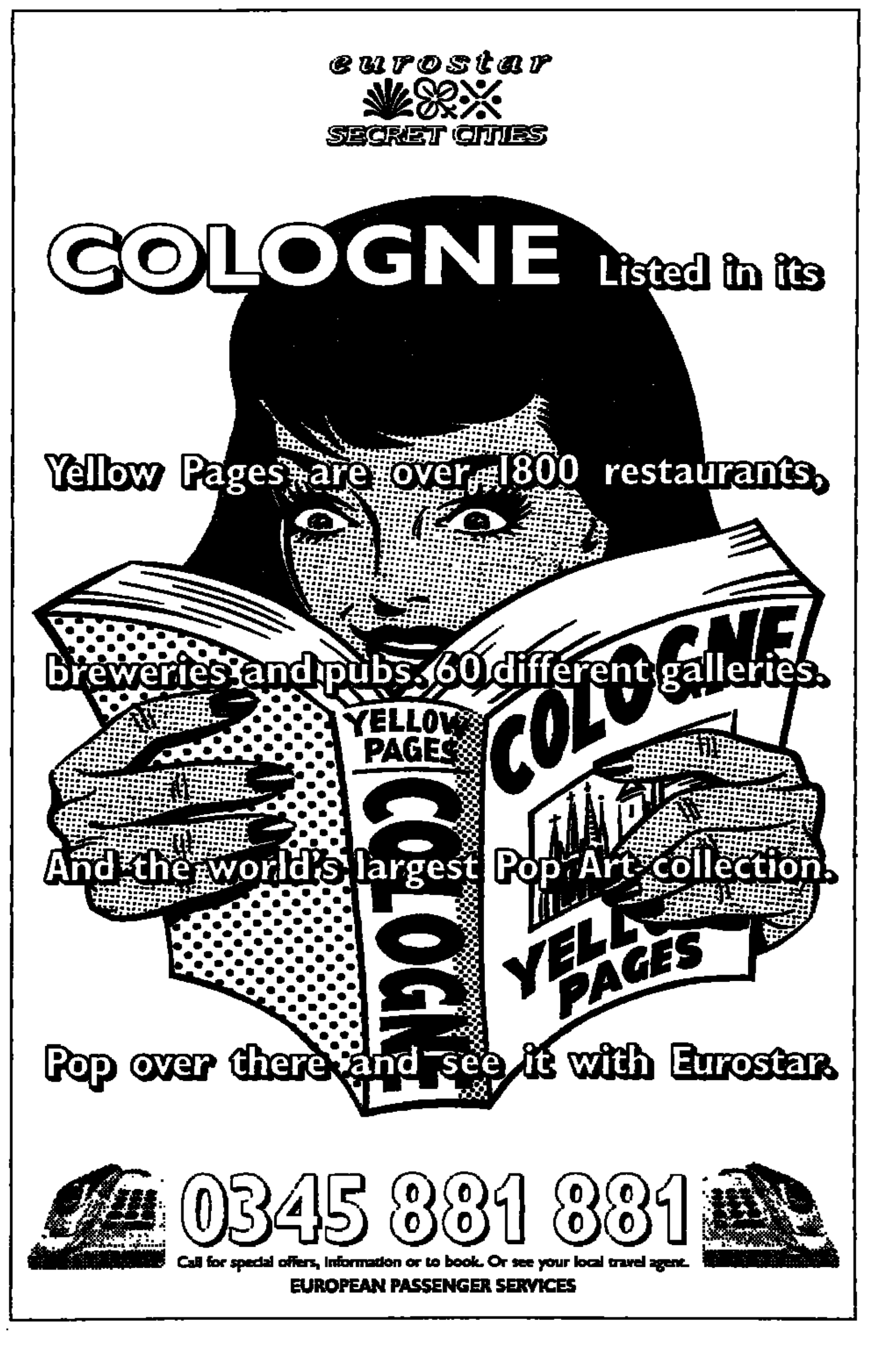
Negotiations are being conducted to bring in the rest of the militia without violence. Before this week's arrests there was a discreet but impressive build-up of government vehicles in the area.

The militia group, which includes nine fugitives, refuses to acknowledge the legitimacy of federal government and set up its own courts and laws in self-styled "Justus Township".

The two ringleaders are charged with advocating violence for political ends, and are being investigated for links to white supremacist groups.


Back Pain?
Painful Sleep?
Your sleeping posture is more important than you think.
STIFF NECK
TENSION HEADACHE
SHOULDER PAIN
PINS AND NEEDLES
PAINFUL HIP JOINTS
BACK PAIN
SCIATICA
ACHING JOINTS
ANKLE PAIN
Tension free sleep is vital to your health.
The Tempur Mattress and Pillow mould to the body, resulting in optimum distribution of pressure.
SLEEP ON IT FOR 30 NIGHTS WITH COMPLETE MONEY BACK GUARANTEE
...you can only win...
The Tempur Mattress and Pillow are recommended by more than 15,000 medical professionals.
Ask your Physiotherapist Chiropractor or Osteopath.
Please send me details on the Tempur Mattress & Pillow
Name
Address
Phone
TEMPUR PRESSURE RELIEVING MATTRESS & PILLOW
Send coupon to: Tempur - Pedic (UK) Ltd FREEPOST (HA 4653) Greenford Middlesex UB6 8BR
or call 0800 616 135
T31


Do you have about 40% too much money?
Then why spend 40% more on your international calls?
- Worldcall costs about 40% less than BT for international calls.
- Call anytime, to anywhere in the world.
- Pay for what you say, with per second billing to most countries.
- Enjoy high quality digital connections from your home or business.
- Prepay just £25* and get £10 free credit.
- It's simple – just dial Worldcall first.
*Price excludes VAT. Rate card and user guide available on request.
£10 FREE CALL OFFER
Offer ends 31st March 1996.
Call now 0181 900 9990
Worldcall
for those with about 40% more to say


eurostar SECRET CITIES
COLOGNE Listed in its Yellow Pages are over 1800 restaurants, breweries and pubs, 60 different galleries. And the world's largest Pop Art collection.
YELLOW PAGES
COLOGNE
YELLOW PAGES
Pop over there and see it with Eurostar.
0345 881 881
Call for special offers, information or to book. Or see your local travel agent.
EUROPEAN PASSENGER SERVICES

Obstacles to Bosnia peace put election plan in peril

By Michael Binyon, diplomatic editor

THE flight of Serbs from Sarajevo suburbs, the failure so far to release all prisoners of war, and deadlock over the extradition of suspected war criminals have led Western diplomats to give a warning that, unless the ceasefire in Bosnia-Herzegovina is stabilised, the elections planned for this autumn may be postponed or scrapped.

After the Moscow meeting of the Contact Group last weekend, Carl Bildt, the EU representative in Bosnia, has said that all reconstruction aid would stop if remaining prisoners were not released very soon. His warning came as the timetable for a return to democratic politics looks increasingly unrealistic, and talks on the registration and rights of voters are in danger of breaking down.

Diplomats at the Moscow meeting emphasised their determination to hold elections for local and national assemblies and leaders in both halves of Bosnia before the September deadline set by the Dayton accords. However, so complex are the details, and so opposed are the Bosnian and Serb leaders to fulfilling conditions that would allow a free vote, that even officials from the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), charged with running the elections, are beginning to doubt whether they can be held.

The main difficulties are: the complexity of the elections, which cover municipal, cantonal and national bodies; the question whether refugees should vote in their home towns or places to which they have fled; the need to guarantee freedom of movement for electoral candidates; and access by different opposition groups to state-controlled media. The OSCE is reluctant to run the polls, but if the 30 election commissions in Bosnia cannot agree on procedure, it may be forced to take over. Whitehall officials said yesterday the obstacles were enormous, but the Western powers were determined that the voting should go ahead, as the entire political settlement depended on them.

The other main problem is the proliferation of parties, with more than 50 in the Bosnian Federation and some 26 in Serbian Bosnia. Most are merely the vehicles for ambitious local personalities, but the OSCE insists on a threshold of 10,000 signatures before any candidate can stand at federation level. It is not easy to get access to television or newspapers for the opposition groups, especially on the Serb side.

Suspected war criminals are forbidden to stand under the Dayton accords, but deadlock over their prosecution may make this hard to enforce. So far few countries have contributed to the estimated cost of £32.6 million for running the elections.

Ken Scott, the British deputy head of the OSCE mission, admits the obstacles are enormous and that there has been little co-operation from the parties. Given the difficulty of crossing ceasefire lines, a national election is probably impossible and candidates will have to stand in either the Serb or the Muslim-Croat entities.

If the OSCE decides the conditions for free elections do not exist, they will be postponed. If that happens, the Nato-led Implementation Force will be under strong pressure to stay, as there will be no other mechanism to enforce the Dayton accords. The Americans, however, have already indicated they will not remain beyond the one-year mandate.

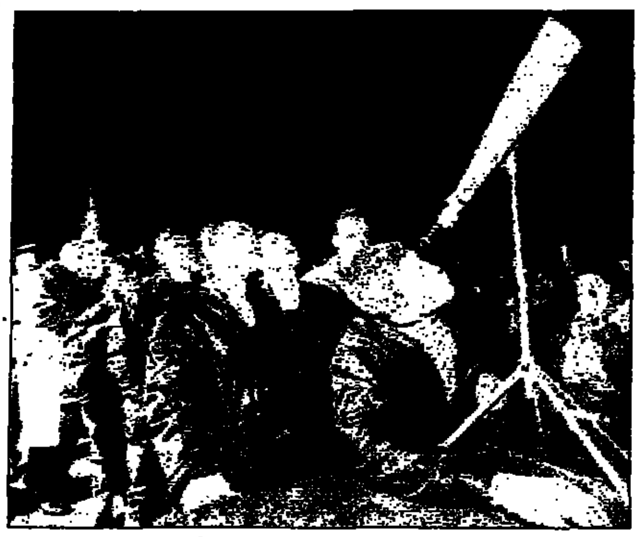
☐ **The Hague:** A doctor who kept Vukovar hospital running during a 1991 siege told UN war crimes hearings yesterday that senior Serb officers ignored her pleas to stop the daily bombardment. Dr Vesna Bosanac was giving evidence against Mile Mrksic, Miroslav Radic and Veselin Sljivancanin, accused of killing 261 Croat men dragged from her hospital after Serb forces overran the town in November 1991.

"Whenever I speak about Vukovar . . . I never feel upset enough," Dr Bosanac said. Belgrade has refused to hand over the Serb officers. *(Reuter)*

Bildt: gave warning of cut-off for Bosnian aid

Comet Hyakutake photographed with a 200mm lens in a 15-minute guided exposure from an observatory in Missouri

Discoverer stays inside as comet sails by


People queue in Moscow to watch the comet. The telescope's owner charged them 2,000 roubles each

By Nigel Hawkes
Science editor

WHILE Muscovites queued to pay 2,000 roubles for a minute watching Comet Hyakutake on its closest approach to Earth on Monday night, its discoverer stayed indoors.

"The media are camped out in the mountains where I watch the stars, so I will just stay in tonight," said Yuji Hyakutake, the Japanese amateur astronomer who discovered the comet with binoculars at the end of January.

He found the comet from the mountains near his home in Kogashima Prefecture, on the southernmost main island of Japan. "The sky was cloudy that night, so I was looking into the only clear spot to see through to the stars," he said. "That is how I found the comet."

British observers so far have been frustrated by cloudy skies, but hope to see the comet before it disappears back into the outer reaches of the solar system, not to return for 17,000 years.

Those who were able to see it on Sunday and Monday say that it was as bright as Sirius, the brightest star in the northern sky. Its tail of glowing gases is an estimated 62,000 miles long.

"There is something about the appearance of a comet," said Brian Marsden, associate director for planetary sciences at the Smithsonian-Harvard Centre for Astrophysics. "I suppose it is the fact that you can have this thing just for a little while and know it has come from a great distance."

Hyakutake is the brightest comet since Comet West in 1976. It is visible throughout the Northern Hemisphere. It is expected to fade slightly this week, but may well flare brightly again later next month as it makes its closest approach to the Sun.

"Things like this spur people to look up beyond the surface of our tiny little planet here, where we live our tiny little lives running around in tiny little circles," said Alan MacRobert, an associate editor at *Sky and Telescope* magazine in Cambridge, Massachusetts, "and see something of the bigger, wider universe that is out there for us waiting to see if we only look up."

'Political' execution stokes unrest in Bahrain

From Christopher Walker
Middle East correspondent

FRESH unrest among Bahrain's Shia Muslim majority hit the crisis-ridden Gulf state yesterday as the first execution in two decades signalled a harsher crackdown on pro-democracy protests. The troubles erupted in December 1994, and are threatening stability in the region.

The unrest started after pro-Government newspapers reported the execution by firing squad of Isa Qambar, 29. He was one of several Shias convicted of the murder last year of a police sergeant in one of the many impoverished Shia villages which ring the modern capital, Manama.

Members of Bahrain's various opposition groups described the execution as a political killing. They said it would spark more violence in a conflict that has already claimed 24 lives and prompted many Bahrain-based foreign companies to consider moving to the relative safety of Dubai.

"The call for democratic reforms will be strengthened," said a statement from the London-based Bahrain Freedom Movement. "The murder of Isa Qambar is bound to fuel more unrest, despite all the measures of collective punishment. Bahrain now faces a bleaker future."

Within hours of the execution, security forces used teargas in villages and towns to disperse protesting Shia youths. All public telephone boxes have been cut off to prevent details of the unrest from being communicated abroad.

"There have been helicopters flying over the villages south and east of Manama all day, indicating that there is serious unrest," said a British expatriate on the island, which has a population of 500,000.

Diplomats predicted more executions as part of the repression by the Emir, Sheikh Isa bin Sulman al-Khalifa.

The execution came days after the authorities announced tough new measures to quell the disturbances, which have made large parts of the island no-go areas for foreigners. The state is linked by a causeway to Saudi Arabia and is host to the American Fifth Fleet.

The demonstrators are demanding the return of the 1975 parliament which was dissolved by the al-Khalifas.

The 8,000 Britons and Americans who live in Bahrain have been given warnings by their embassies not to visit cafés, restaurants and other places likely to be bomb targets.

Spain's leading terror suspect arrested on shopping trip

From Edward Owen in Madrid

SPAIN'S most wanted man, Valentín Lasarte, 32, was being interrogated yesterday after being detained by police in the Basque region of northern Spain.

Señor Lasarte, whose picture features on 20,000 wanted posters around the country, was arrested after a tip-off from a member of the public who recognised him as he shopped at a hypermarket in the town of Oiartzun.

Police chased Señor Lasarte and a female companion to the town square and fired warning shots. Señor Lasarte, unarmed, threw himself to the ground and shouted his name before he was handcuffed.

He is accused of killing two senior Basque politicians. Gregorio Ordóñez, the conservative Popular Party candidate for Mayor of San Sebastian, was shot dead in January 1995 during the runup to local elections. Fernando Múgica, a lawyer and main Socialist candidate in San Sebastian for the general election held three weeks ago, was shot dead last month.

Múgica's son, who witnessed the murder, recognised Señor Lasarte immediately. Señor Lasarte told him: "Next time it will be you."

The leading member of Eta, the Basque separatist organisation, will be interrogated until Saturday under special legislation approved by a top Madrid judge. He may be charged with several other killings.

Police hope that Señor Lasarte, and Idoia Arrieta, the woman detained with him and a previously unidentified member of Eta, will lead them to other members of his group. Dozens of Basque police patrols fanned out from San Sebastian in the hope of breaking up the "Donosti Commando Unit".

Eta, whose acronym stands for Basque Homeland and Freedom, has killed more than 760 people since it began fits campaign in 1968.

Poll forces Yeltsin to halt Chechen battle

From Richard Beeston in Moscow

A LONG and bloody offensive by Russian forces against Chechen rebels will draw to an end in the coming days, when President Yeltsin announces a new peace plan to halt the 15-month conflict in the breakaway republic.

According to General Pavel Grachev, the Russian Defence Minister, the military will halt its operations, characterised in recent weeks by brutal air and artillery attacks.

"Military actions alone cannot step up the process of resolving the situation in Chechenia," he said in Grozny, the capital of Chechenia. His remarks yesterday were the clearest sign yet about the contents of Mr Yeltsin's long-awaited peace plan, which the Russian leader will reveal in a "live" address this weekend.

A senior military source was quoted as saying that after the speech the army would begin pulling out of Chechenia.

The change in approach is linked to Russia's presidential poll on July 16. Mr Yeltsin has admitted that without peace in Chechenia his re-election hopes are doomed.

☐ **Oslo:** Mr Yeltsin ended his first official visit to Norway yesterday. Both countries agreed to combat nuclear waste pollution, but failed to resolve differences over Nato's expansion to the East. *(Reuter)*

CELLNET INTRODUCE FRESHLY SQUEEZED ORANGE.

60 minutes maximum for £29.38 on talk 60*
orange

125 MINUTES MAXIMUM FOR £26.44 ON REGULAR CALLER PLUS*
CELLNET

RING 0800 21 4000 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THE NET THAT SETS YOU FREE. cellnet

*Based on equivalent recommended tariffs. 125 mins max of off-peak calls. Minutage reduces when peak-time calls are made. Telecom Securicor Cellular Radio.

Nicotine spray is approved in US for heavy smokers

From Ian Brodie in Washington

A NICOTINE nasal spray was approved yesterday for heavy cigarette smokers in America who are trying to give up. It will go on sale later this year under the name Nicotrol NS and will require a doctor's prescription.

Smokers will be instructed to inhale one or two squirts in each nostril every hour, with never more than five doses an hour. Each dose will contain one milligram of nicotine, about one cigarette's worth. The pump bottle will contain 100 milligrams of nicotine solution and users will be warned that 40 milligrams taken at once can be lethal.

In giving approval, the US Food and Drug Administration indicated concern that some smokers might become as addicted to snorting the spray as they were to cigarettes. One desperate woman in a clinical trial watered down her supply of spray to make it last longer before she eventually gave up and returned to cigarettes.

The FDA has asked the spray's developer, Pharmacia and Upjohn, to establish a plan with doctors to monitor any adverse effects. They must also endeavour to keep the spray out of the hands of teenagers under 18, who are not supposed to use it.

In tests, the spray's success rate was no better than for nicotine gum or the patch. Studies of 730 smokers found that a quarter of those who received it gave up cigarettes for at least a year while only 13 per cent of those on a placebo managed to stop smoking.

Smokers' brains will absorb less nicotine from the spray than from cigarettes, according to Richard Hurt, director of the nicotine dependency centre at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. He explained that nicotine inhaled through cigarettes goes straight to the heart and is pumped to the brain in five heartbeats while Nicotrol circulates through the blood before reaching the heart and the brain.

The spray is being launched at a time when the US tobacco industry is under intense scrutiny by the Government amid allegations that tobacco executives lied to Congress in denying that nicotine was addictive.

President Clinton joined the fray this week, describing cigarettes as the number one health threat to young people.

MESH TECHNIQUE
HerniaRepair
Performed as day case under local anaesthesia by specialist surgeons • Fast, effective treatment • Overnight stay available • Affordable all inclusive fees • DHA registered • All major health insurers recognised.
The London Hernia Centre
0171-328 1228

LAST DAY MONDAY APRIL 8th '96
CLOSING DOWN SALE
HANDMADE ORIENTAL CARPETS & RUGS
80% OFF ALL STOCK

FINE PAK BOKHARA SIZE 6'x4' £150
PERSIAN TRIBAL CARPET SIZE 12'x9' £795
PERSIAN ISPHAN SIZE 5.6'x3.6' £950
PERSIAN SILK QUM SIZE 5.6'x3.6' £995
FINE KASHMIR BOKHARA SIZE 12'x9' £800

(AND LARGE SELECTION OF TURKISH SILK HEREKE, AFGHAN & RUSSIAN & TURKISH WOOLLEN CARPET & RUGS.)

OPEN MON TO SAT 10am to 6.30pm

BELGRAVE CARPET GALLERY LTD
91 KNIGHTSBRIDGE, LONDON SW1

Tel: 0171-235-2541 / 0171-245-9741
Fax: 0171-408-2496

Renewing your home insurance in April or May ?

If you're 50 or over, just see how much you can save with Saga - call us NOW!

You will know how expensive home insurance can be - thankfully, if you're aged 50 or over you can benefit from Saga Home Insurance - a superior household insurance that's only available to mature, responsible people like you.

Because of this, Saga Home Insurance can offer you genuine savings over other policies, while giving you cover that fully protects your home and possessions.

The Saga Price Promise

If you find another comparable policy at a lower price within 2 months of taking out Saga Home Insurance, we'll refund you the difference.

- Exclusively for people aged 50 or over.
- Cover is comprehensive and low cost.
- Save 30% off WorldWide flights.
- Free pen with your quotation.

Call us today!
For your free no obligation quote simply call us on the number below. We will be pleased to answer any questions you have on Saga Home Insurance.

0800 414 525 ext.2664

Lines open Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm, Saturdays 9am - 1pm

SAGA
Services Ltd
Saga Services Ltd, FREEPOST 731
Middelburg Square, Folkestone CT20 1AZ

Saga Services Ltd would like to send you information about services provided by other Saga companies and may pass details to these companies to enable them to do so.

And why not ask us about our competitive MOTOR INSURANCE

هكذا من الامس

Day three of our week-long guide to help you to check your child's progress through the national curriculum

The science of success

Head teacher **Bridget Methuen** gives the lowdown on the topics 11-year-olds should be familiar with for this year's science tests

RICHARD RAYNER

Children at Snape Primary School practise the appliance of science as they prepare for the forthcoming tests

Perhaps it is the advent of league tables or the increasing number of practice papers on sale in the shops, but parents and children seem to be more anxious about this year's tests for 11-year-olds. Children are often aware of the concern of their parents and that their teachers are hoping that they will do themselves, and the school, credit. Against this background of mild anxiety, they are confronted by additional problems in the science tests.

Since the advent of the national curriculum, science has had a much higher profile in primary schools, and concepts I was taught for O level I now teach to 10 and 11-year-olds. However, gone is the theoretical way of working; children are now encouraged to develop a scientific way of thinking.

They learn how to devise a fair test, interpret results analytically and draw logical conclusions from their results — all very different from the factual recall required by the test. In addition, the curriculum is often delivered spirally over a four-year cycle, so that each aspect is covered twice at different levels. This means that children may meet certain topics when they are seven, again at nine, but do not get tested on them until nearly 18 months later.

So, how can parents help? Firstly, they can stop getting worried. Every child will also be given a level of achievement by their teacher based on work done over the previous year. This has equal status with the test result and is presented alongside it.

Schools will be acclimatising children to the test formats and many do "practice runs", using previous years' papers. These develop the children's exam techniques and also help to remind them of work done in the previous years. General revision at home is a great help, but parents should be wary of inducing extra stress. Remember these are *not* GCSEs.

All three strands of science tested will feature in both of the papers. The following is a brief outline of what is required.

7 11 14
TESTPLAN

LIFE AND LIVING PROCESSES: BIOLOGY

Children are asked to know:

1. The characteristics of living things and should be able to categorise them using simple keys.
2. The major organ systems of the human body, their position and function. This may be linked to the effects of exercise, etc, to show an understanding of the processes involved.
3. The major parts of flowering plants and their role in seed formation.
4. The conditions needed for seed germination taking into account moisture, nutrition, light and competition.
5. Food chains and how each part of the chain relies on the previous link. That all food chains need a producer (the green plants). They should be able to write a food chain using arrows, and know terms such as herbivore and carnivore, as well as being aware of the role of fungi and bacteria in decomposition. Wider environmental issues are encompassed here.
6. That healthy living, exercise, hygiene, clean water and good diet are desirable.

MATERIALS AND THEIR PROPERTIES: CHEMISTRY.

Children are asked to:

1. Be able to group materials according to their properties.
2. Be able to relate these properties to their practical usage. For example: which materials are electrical conductors; why glass is used for windows; why wellington boots are made of plastic/rubber.
3. Know how the water cycle works and be able to use words such as evaporation, water vapour, condensation.
4. Know different methods of extraction of substances by filtration, evaporation and condensation, and their practical application.
5. Know the differences between solids, liquids and gasses, and how they relate to each other.
6. Know that some changes are reversible and some are irreversible.
7. Recognise the role of oxygen in combustion, the rusting of metals, etc.
8. Understand the effects of weathering on buildings.

PHYSICAL PROCESSES: PHYSICS.

Children are expected to:

1. Know the difference between renewable and non-renewable sources of fuel, and the waste products of combustible fuels.
2. Know how energy is transferred and how forces such as friction, gravity and air resistance can affect direction and speed of movement.
3. Understand about our solar system and order the planets around the Sun.
4. Know about light, its sources and movement, and understand reflection, refraction and shadow formation.
5. Know the seven colours of the spectrum and the effect of the use of prisms and coloured filters.
6. Know about sound, how it is made, and that it travels more slowly than light.
7. Understand about different electrical circuits and be able to understand and interpret the symbols used in diagrams for switches, bulbs, etc.

● *The author is head teacher of Snape Primary School, Bedale, North Yorkshire*

QUESTIONS FROM LAST YEAR

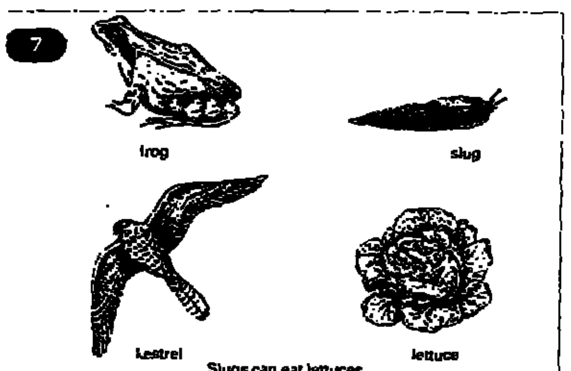
3 Solids, liquids and gases have different properties. The chart below shows some of these properties.

Complete the table by ticking (✓) to show the properties of solids, liquids and gases

The first row has been done for you. Some rows may need more than one tick

property	solid	liquid	gas
keeps its own shape	✓		
flows easily through a pipe			
can make rigid or stiff structures			
can be squashed into a much smaller volume			
takes the shape of the container into which it is put			

7



Slugs can eat lettuces.
Kestrels can eat frogs.
Frogs can eat slugs.

(a) Write this as a food chain.

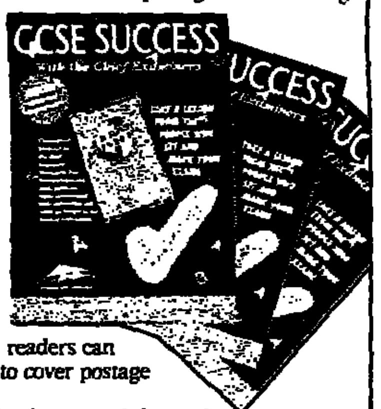
→ → →

(b) Write the name of the producer in this food chain.

THE TIMES

Free GCSE study pack worth £10.99

You pay only £1.98 to cover the cost of postage and handling



Today *The Times* offers you the chance to get a complimentary GCSE revision pack written by a Chief Examiner. Published by Fast Forward, they consist of an audio tape plus an interactive study booklet.

There are three to choose from and the normal price for each one is £10.99 but Times readers can get them for only £1.98 to cover postage and handling.

The tapes average 60 minutes and the study booklets are designed to interact with it to help students memorise information.

You also have the opportunity to choose from 20 Fast Forward titles for GCSE and A-level students at half price.

THE COMPLIMENTARY PACKS

GCSE English: Reading Skills
Written by Chief Examiner Dr Peter Buckroyd it covers comprehension, analysis, linguistic skills, evaluation and deduction — the key to success in the GCSE English exam.

GCSE English Literature: Prose Texts
Written by Dr Peter Buckroyd it deals with critical analysis and contains exercises designed to improve students' skills.

GCSE History: The Superpowers, Russia and America
Written for students of the Modern World History syllabus by joint Chief Examiners John Wright and Tony Rea.

HOW TO GET YOUR REVISION PACKS

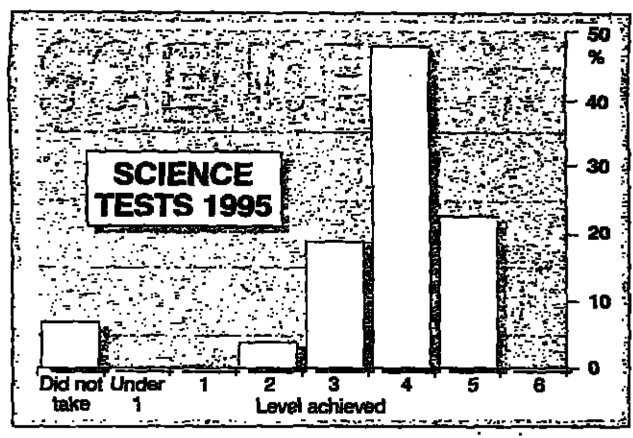
Send four differently numbered tokens plus £1.98 to cover postage and packing with the coupon to:
The Times/Fast Forward Revision Pack Offer, PO Box 45, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1UD.

Cheques should be made payable to Fast Forward.

This offer is restricted to one complimentary pack per household.

THE TIMES
GCSE EXAM BUSTERS
TOKEN 3

Tougher tests lie in store



CHILDREN are expected to show a good grasp of scientific vocabulary in their science tests at 11 but will be allowed some leeway with the spelling of difficult words.

Markers did not discount incorrect spellings of technical words last year unless they were unrecognisable. For example, "constration" was marked wrong but "condensachon" correct.

Those who chose to describe the effect of the Sun on the Earth as it rotated, rather than illustrate it, tended to receive higher marks last year.

Generally, questions will be more demanding because assessors considered the range too narrow at Level 5 last summer. The Levels 3 to 5 science tests for 11-year-olds will contain 15 per cent more questions but children will have 35 minutes for each paper.

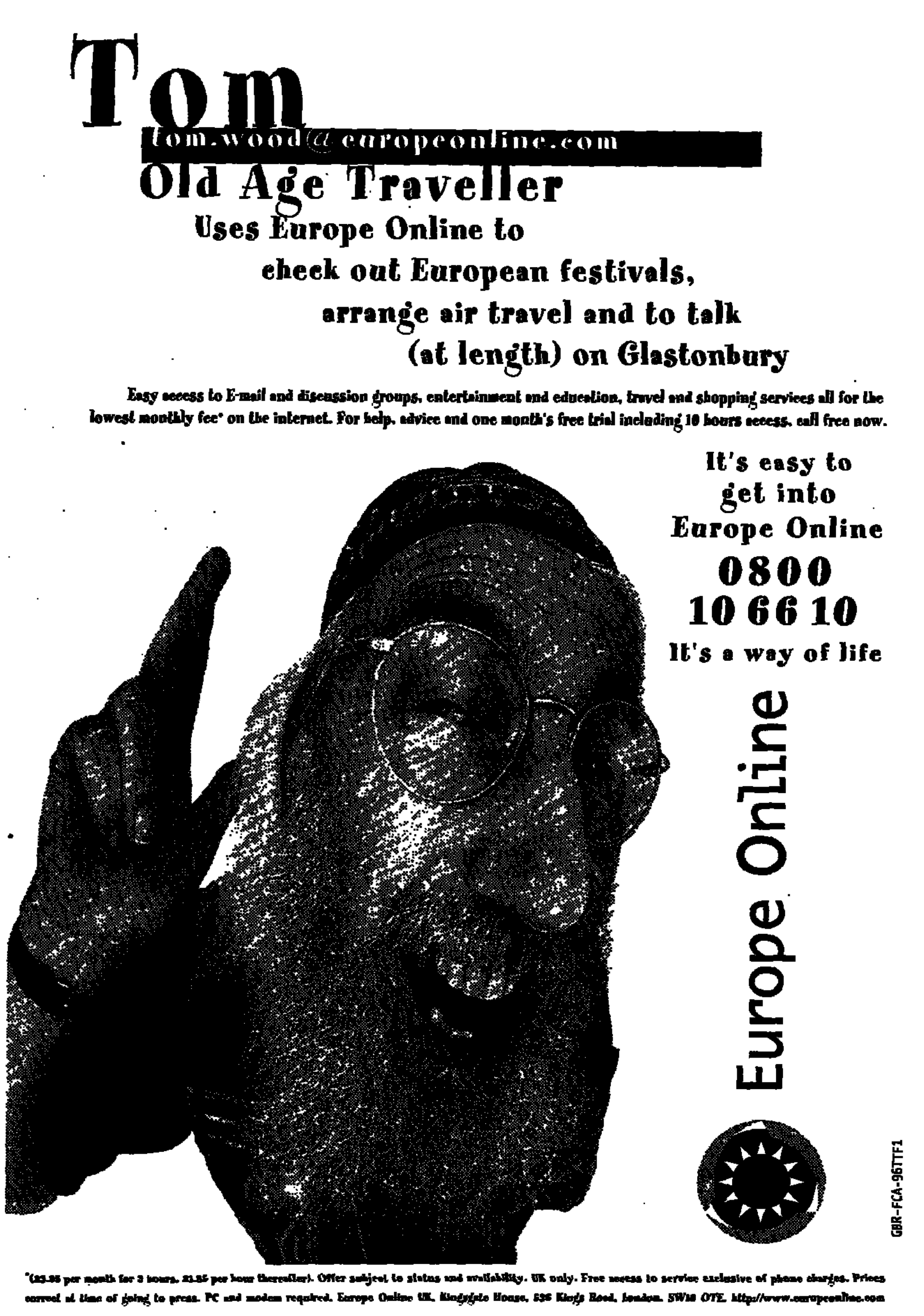
Forces caused some problems last year and assessors pointed out that children *should know that forces act in* specific directions and should be indicated with straight lines, using arrows to show their direction. This year's tests will require extra knowledge of the effect of forces, for example, how the speed of an object may be changed.

Many children did not know the difference between explaining and describing. Responding to pictures of sugar in liquid, "the sugar has dissolved" was a correct answer but "the sugar seems to have disappeared" was wrong.

DAVID CHARTER

Get ahead with hindsight

THE full set of questions from last year's national curriculum tests for 11-year-olds is now available in three paperback books sponsored by *The Times*. Separate books cover English, mathematics and science. Each includes advice on preparation, an explanation of the marking, and sample questions. *The Parents' Guide to National Tests*, published by HMSO, costs £4.95 per subject. They are also available at bookshops.


Tom
tom.wood@europeonline.com
Old Age Traveller
Uses Europe Online to
check out European festivals,
arrange air travel and to talk
(at length) on Glastonbury

Easy access to E-mail and discussion groups, entertainment and education, travel and shopping services all for the lowest monthly fee* on the internet. For help, advice and one month's free trial including 10 hours access, call free now.

It's easy to get into Europe Online
0800 10 66 10
It's a way of life

Europe Online

GBR-FCA-96TTF1

*(£[illegible] per month for 3 hours, £[illegible] per hour thereafter). Offer subject to status and availability. UK only. Free access to service exclusive of phone charges. Prices correct at time of going to press. PC and modem required. Europe Online UK, Kingsgate House, 536 Kings Road, London, SW10 OTE. http://www.europeonline.com

Tight fisted? Miserly? Penny pinching? Have we got a van for you.

We're talking about the most economical van you can buy. The very latest Daihatsu Hijet with its new diesel engine. At 3p a mile less to run than even its nearest rival, it'll save you £1,800 over 60,000 miles. Add that to its already class beating payload, cargo capacity and turning circle and you'll see why the Hijet has been What Van's "Best Microvan" three years running.

3 YEAR

For more information on the Hijet diesel Freephone 0800 521 700, or send this coupon to Daihatsu Information Services, FREEPOST 506, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BR.

NAME ____ T21/3
ADDRESS ____
____ POSTCODE ____
TEL ____ TICK IF UNDER 18 ☐
CURRENT VEHICLE ____
MODEL ____ YEAR ____

THE DAIHATSU HIJET

DAIHATSU

NO-NONSENSE VEHICLES

Easy pieces for fast women

Donna Karan and her customers are celebrating ten years of understated dressing for women on the move

Fashion journalist of the year

IAIN R. WEBB

When designer Donna Karan unveils her latest designs in New York this week she will have extra cause to celebrate. Her company is now ten years old.

Karan founded her business on little more than a foundation garment itself, taking her inspiration for her stretch jersey body from Martha Graham's dance leotard.

Like the cleverest of concepts, it was an achingly simple idea: sometimes wrapped with an additional length of fabric which doubled as a pareo skirt, or with a crisp white shirt attached.

"At the time I didn't think of it as revolutionary," says Karan. Fashion myth would have it that Karan's career began when the designer asked herself "What do I really need in my wardrobe?" In response she created her own line of clothing, a wardrobe full of understated easy pieces which fitted together. Uncomplicated, modern and luxurious, befitting a fast-moving female on Seventh Avenue, it soon clicked with high-powered women executives the world over. A loyal clientele was formed. Karan's label and her customers have grown up together because, the designer says, she understands their needs. They are the same as her own. As she gets older she believes this to be even more important.

"Probably more so, because there are more things to think about," says Karan, who describes herself as a problem solver. "Your body shifts."

Karan is all too aware that women are inundated with too many clothes. She calls it "product pollution".

"Fashion is going too fast," she says. "Everyone wants new, new, new, and the customer becomes very confused." This prompted Karan to introduce the Essentials collection, so that a woman can always go into a store and buy *that* black suit or white shirt. "Great items to add to what you already own," she says. "You don't have to start over each season."

Every season she reappraises the collection. It is not the same collection you saw three years ago — a lapel on a jacket may be wider, a trouser narrower, a hemline shorter. There are always new things added to the line. "The things women like and want more of." This season they include a leather jacket cut like a motorcycle jacket but in the softest of skins, a little sweater ("a sleek finish under a jacket or to top a grand ballgown skirt"), a tuxedo jacket which works worn over a black dress or as part of a suit, a knit rib dress ("the newest foundation"), and the ubiquitous white shirt.

As fashion in the 1990s gives women more choice, what does Donna Karan offer?

"I like to have a system of dressing to make life easy. Fabrics which can go from day to evening. Clothes which are packable, a pair of shoes to go with anything. It's no longer about long or short. Clothes need to be comfortable, flexible and functional."

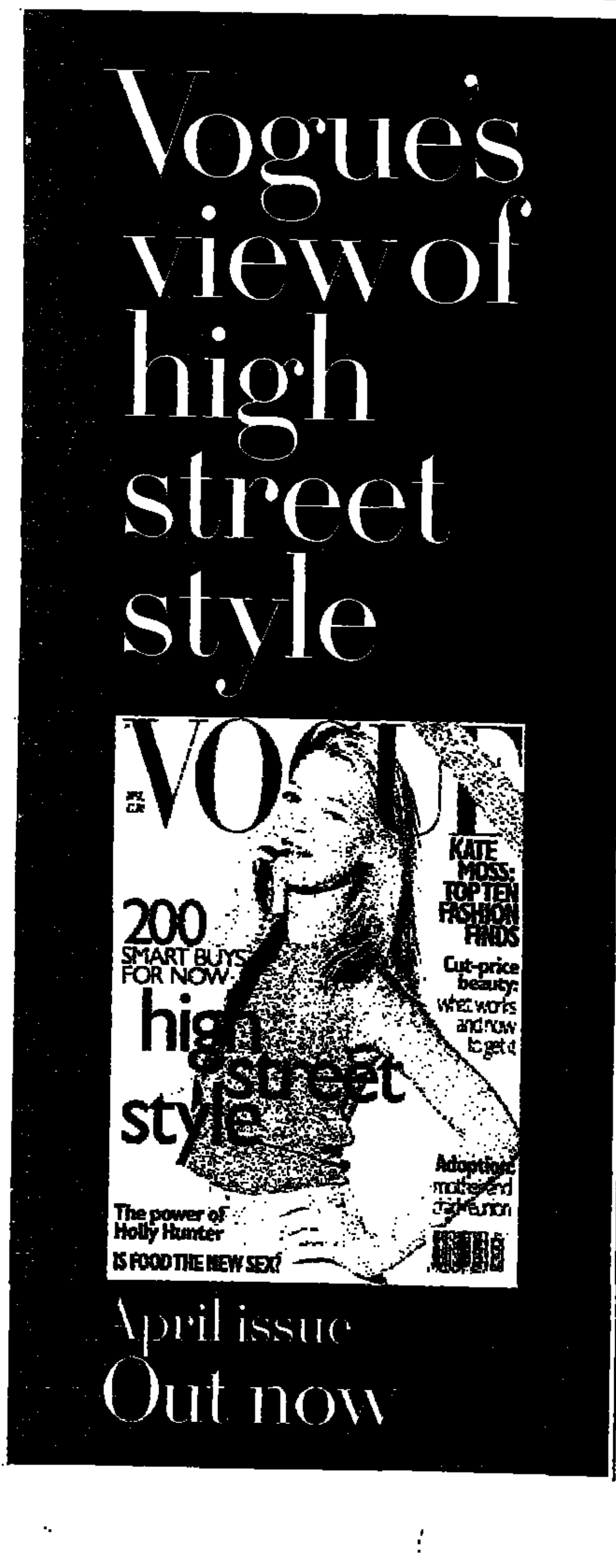
ABOVE: Kristen McMenamy, model, wears black silk and tulle evening gown with vest top

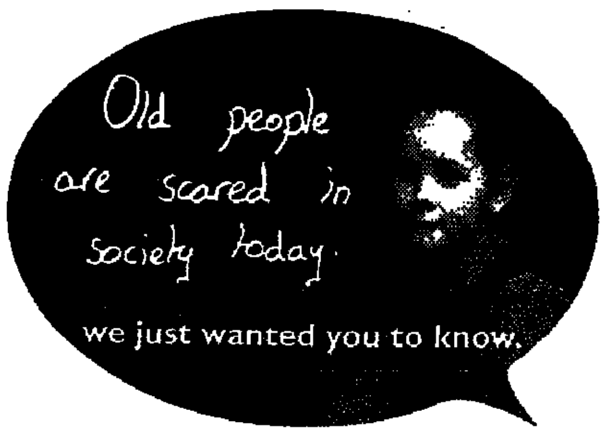
ABOVE LEFT: Benedetta Barzini, journalist, wears beaded evening slip dress with low scoop neckline

LEFT: Anh Duong, artist, wears tailored single-breasted trouser suit with narrow-leg pants

RIGHT: Kristen McMenamy wears satin capri pants and camel double-breasted cashmere overcoat

Photographs by
HERB RITTS
from *Modern Souls*, a celebration of Donna Karan clothes modelled by her customers and friends (published by Distributed Art Publishers, available price £39.95 from Harrods, SW1, Dillons, W1, Zwemmer, W1 and selected book stores nationwide)


Vogue's view of high street style
VOGUE
KATE MOSS: TOP TEN FASHION FINDS
200 SMART BUYS FOR NOW
high street style
Cut-price beauty: what works and how to get it
Adoption: mother and child reunion
The power of Holly Hunter
IS FOOD THE NEW SEX?
April issue
Out now


Old people are scared in society today.
we just wanted you to know.

The Children's Society
A Voluntary Society of the Church of England and the Church in Wales
a little voice
You can help. Call 0345 55 77 55
Charity Reg. No 221124 Local rates apply

TO SAVE ORANGE A BIT OF MONEY WE'VE PUBLISHED THEIR PRICES NEXT TO OURS.
(FUNNY, THEY NEVER THANKED US.)

15
minutes maximum for £17.63 on talk 15*
orange

32
MINUTES MAXIMUM FOR £17.50 ON OCCASIONAL CALLER*
CELLNET

RING 0800 21 4000 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THE NET THAT SETS YOU FREE. cellnet

*Based on equivalent recommended tariffs 32 mins max of off-peak calls. Minutage reduces when peak-time calls are made.
Telecom Securicor Cellular Radio

Why therapy is not a soft option

Every day of the working week, I sit in my consulting room listening to people in distress. At the centre of their concerns is a wish to be living their lives unencumbered by chronic anxieties, insecurities, despair, rages or depressions. Although some media coverage of psychotherapy might suggest otherwise, therapy is not a soft option, a kind of massage of the soul, a self-indulgent 50 minutes, or a faddish part of the lives of the well-heeled and well-educated. Rather, it is sought when other means for change have been exhausted: when friends, families, lovers and teachers have been unable to provide the means to address the pain that so troubles the person.

Of late, we are used to family relationships being used for political gain by politicians who, misunderstanding either wilfully, mendaciously or ignorantly the complex texture of emotional life, make a rhetorical call for a return to family values — to a presumed two-parent idyll that never was from within which most of my patients were raised. The family is presented as a harmonious, supportive unit in which conflict is managed, responsibility taken on readily, and in which parents parent.

All the economic pressures, the shifts in gender relations and the worries about work are miraculously meant to be absorbed and processed in the family. The family is both bulwark against society and a treatment plant for society's sewage. The tensions between parents and children; between the sexes; the demands on women to care for the elderly and the young; the restructuring of work; the very things that make individuals and groups of individuals unstable, instead of being engaged within the political debate, are given a sleight of hand — or worse, even a dose of ideology — to cover them up.

"Not us," say the politicians. "It's the lack of family values that's to blame."

Apart of this nostalgic call by politicians to the family speaks to us and acts as a temporary balm, because the search for certainty, for stability, for security, is something we can all relate to. We crave these in the face of political, economic and social uncertainty and we crave these in the face of lives lived with insufficient emotional sustenance.

But what sense can we make of our desires today? The image of the family unit is the gossamer over which we stretch our needs for attachment, for intimacy and autonomy. Where our politicians and policymakers are inclined to look at the forms of attachment, we do well to look rather at the *content* of attachments. Where we fantasise stable relationships, hearts-and-flowers romances, we would do well to look rather at what intimate human engagement requires and supplies; what makes relationships work.

Most importantly, we need to recognise that one of our human dilemmas is that relationships can be especially adhesive when they are patently destructive.

Part of what psychoanalysis allows us to see is that when the early environment can provide relationships in which the baby can have its initiatives responded to with care, when the needs of the child can be held in mind, the child grows up with the emotional base to be a partner in creating and maintaining attachments which are secure and stable. It can manage inside itself the consequences of disappointment, of things going wrong.

Where early life fails, the individual grows up experiencing a lack of self-regard along a continuum from insecurity to self-hate. The hurtful relationship cannot be given up but is like a manacle binding the person to the emotional pith of that relationship. To put it starkly: if good relationships in early life incline one to seek out

by Susie Orbach

their repetition, so does the influence of unsatisfactory relationships. We are disposed to repeat what is, even if that has been felt to be insufficient, for that is how inside ourselves we experience relationship. We know no other.

The extent to which one has been let down by a parental relationship is the extent to which, in the unconscious, that parent is still much wanted. Meanwhile, in the outside world, the experience of unsatisfactory relating will tilt the person unwittingly to seek, attract and confirm that experience in new relationships, even as they try to challenge it. The channels for receiving a more wholesome relationship are closed. Bad relationships can't easily be given up. They are hard to digest and be done with. They linger and fester, unleashing emotional havoc on others, binding up psychic energy so that engagement in the world is often reactive rather than creative.

In trying to build enabling relationships in a Risk Society so that we contribute and shape that society rather than feel ourselves to be constantly reactive, blown off course and rushing to catch up with it, we require a base of emotional security. Emotional security is the basis of autonomy. Particularly in times of rapid unmapped change, the capacity to embrace what is, to think and to act out of that thoughtfulness, depends upon the internalisation of enabling attachments.

One thing that skews our relationships is our gender arrangements. For years the myth was that women were dependent and men independent. But what underpins men and supports their apparent autonomy? What makes it possible for men to feel able to take on challenges in the world, in so far as they have; to take a personal authority, to feel unburdened by deep insecurities? What emotional services have men historically received that have sustained their sense of independence?

What twist has allowed women to be seen as emotionally dependent when it is obvious that their role has been to provide a relationship on which others may depend without anticipating such a relationship for themselves?

I am not arguing that men are dependent and women not. I am suggesting that in any consideration of how we build quality relationships, and the means to adapt to the challenges of the Risk Society, the question of the disposition of emotional dependency needs and emotional capacities between women and men needs to be confronted and the issues of autonomy and dependency, and their relationship to one another understood and refashioned so emotional resilience is more widely available.

We need not remain mystified about what makes enabling relationships. Relationships that enable are those which allow a full experience of the other, which allow for a range of emotional responses to be registered rather than interfered with. They don't consist of carving up emotions and letting men carry one set and women another. Adults who can ask of one another how they are and stick around for a genuine reply without trying to fix, transform, deny or ridicule the responses they get, are providing enabling relationships.

Such relating depends on a capacity to resonate with another emotionally without being swamped, to empathise without feeling impelled to make better, so that there is space for those responses so often disregarded because they fail the test of drama. Enabling relationships depend upon an equal emotional exchange and a certain emotional fluency. Enabling relationships make it possible for us to hold contradictory feelings simultaneously, rather than retreat into emotional fundamentalism where all is good or bad or love and hate and where scapegoating — projecting — dominates our relation to self and others.

The capacity to manage complex emotional lives is a political issue. It makes for a robust population which can think about the wider political issues rather than being emotionally manipulated by them — one which can refuse the false conflation of the private and the public and which can open up new issues in the public agenda.

● *Abridged from a talk given yesterday to the Institute of Public Policy Research conference on Risk Society*

Everybody loves a loser

It must be excruciating to watch the Oscars from a chair in the audience, but from the comfort of our own sofas at home it makes perfect television

Why would any of us watch the Oscars? I'm not sure anyone really minds who wins what, or even, despite the pretence of press interest in the subject, who wears what. But it seems the Academy Awards ceremony holds some sway over here.

There might not be enough enthusiasm to keep people up all night watching the full, live, unexpurgated version as it is beamed from a narcissistically quivering LA but — and this seems to be odder, insomniac fanaticism being somewhat easier to understand than bleary concern — a number of people I spoke to yesterday morning told me, unashamedly, that they wouldn't be listening to or watching the news all day just so they wouldn't find out who got what before the BBC showed the highlights last night. One begins to fear for one's friends.

Nevertheless, I did watch it, the whole damn shoot. And although I might reassure myself that it was all in the line of duty, I began to see the appeal. For the British audience, the lure is twofold. In the first instance we see our worst impressions of Americans in general, and actors in particular, confirmed; and in the second — and this is the truly more pleasurable aspect — we get to see people lose, publicly and big time.

Those motivations apart, at least for the moment, the Awards ceremony is ideally suited to television. It's pretty and bright and vacuous and ephemeral. In fact, the whole production seems to sit more happily on the screen in the corner of the room than it does in the cavernous theatrical spaces of the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. There, the actors seem to get lost: they belong to celluloid, not to the stage. And so to fill the space, and the gap, fashion shows and cabaret turns are produced. Films are about close-up, about projecting people several times their natural size. Even though the television shrinks them, at least we see them as they should be, filling a screen; thus a reassuring air of unreality is restored.

Nigella Lawson

To watch the actual event from a chair in the auditorium must be excruciating. From the sofa at home we can at least wallow in the agreeable awfulness. That, of course, is what the Oscars are all about. We expect everyone to be at their schmaltzy worst. Strangely enough the British, so prone to embarrassment, seem to like being embarrassed. We watch those acceptance speeches cringingly, peeping over cushions held up for notional protection, and yet we wouldn't watch if it weren't for the prospect of our being embarrassed.

Truth to tell, this year things were looking a bit lacklustre on that front. Whoopi Goldberg is too acerbic a personality to invite self-indulgent thespian navel-gazing. Her opening riff about the ribbons people had asked her to wear (red for Aids awareness, purple for breast cancer awareness, milk-white for "mad cow" awareness and so forth) was about as anti-Hollywood as you could get and still get a round of applause.

But as the show progressed, the stars began to show their true colours. Mira Sorvino — best supporting actress in Woody Allen's *Mighty Aphrodite* — turned in a sterling acceptance speech, culminating in a sentimental paean of praise for her father, Paul, who was then shown weeping openly and bloatedly in his seat. Best actress (and how) Susan Sarandon, who is always written about as an admirable type of anti-luvvie, was full of dazed oh-my-oh-mys, not being able to get over her surprise at even being "included among such fine actors" (Nicolas Cage later expressed the same modest sentiment), and ended *her* speech: "May we all in our homes and in our hearts find a way to non-violently end violence and heal."

But it's not surprising that Hollywood is sentimental, it's built on sentiment. Death must therefore be emotionally venerated. There isn't quite an award for Best Dead Person but there is a roll call, throatily itemised, of "Academy members who have left us since Academy Awards night last year", and some defunct members get more applause than others. One can't help feeling, however, that Louis Malle's high rating (justly earned, that I don't dispute) isn't more of an indication that the Hollywood audience wanted to show they knew how to appreciate an art-house movie director.

At other times, the audience — that's to say, the actors — behaved quite breathtakingly. Despite Goldberg's cynicism, Hollywood, a reactionary town, has always been strangely insistent on showing a degree of liberal compassion. Caring about the right things and showing you care is important. It wants to be right-on, or PC, but in the best possible sense. Thus Christopher Reeve, the recently paralysed *Superman* actor, is displayed in his wheelchair to tumultuous applause, Sidney Poitier given a standing ovation for being "the first black Academy Award winner" *(though in the light of Jesse Jackson's input this year, perhaps a heightened sensitivity is to be expected)*. But it seems to me grossly patronising — and, for what it's worth, distinctly unPC — to clap someone for being paralysed or black.

It would be wrong to say that we enjoy the discomfiture of the actors, since none of them showed any sign of knowing that it might have been seemly to be discomfited. But at least we know that by the end of the evening there have been more losers than winners. And that seems to keep us at home happy.

GARY HERSHON/REUTERS

Best actress Susan Sarandon hoped we would all "in our hearts find a way to non-violently end violence and heal"

> We expect everyone to be at their schmaltzy worst and watch the speeches from behind cushions

Where's the beef? You decide

THERE'S SOMETHING I don't understand: why does this Government, which has always been keen to show itself the party that believes in choice, so evidently believe we have no real right to choose to stop eating British beef?

However infinitesimal the risks (and I'm sure the only reason we feel them to be greater than they probably are is because we've been led to believe they were less than they are), nothing alters the fact that we are perfectly free to eat what we want, or not eat what we don't want. We don't need to justify ourselves.

People do justify themselves, though, and it's because they are afraid of being thought wimps. Thus people are actually boasting, for example, of having had steak for lunch. I don't quite get it myself, but then I have never understood why people seem to think the stronger the curry they can put away the better light it puts them in.

The idea that eating beef is macho is hardly new, of course, but this boasting is more than that. It's as if showing a glorious unconcern for what is troubling others — the little people — shows an aristocratic spirit, shows bravery. The risk is small, so it is petty of us, it is implied, even to heed it. I see the point of running risks if we having something to gain thereby, but this is rather a different matter.

Anyway, if one is worried about eating beef, why do so? If to eat it gives us more anxiety than pleasure, then not to is hardly a deprivation. Our duty is not foremost to the farmers of Great Britain, as the Government might have been wise to recognise. My position here is that I'll eat organic beef, or as good as, if it comes from my butcher, Mr Lidgate. In other words, I trust him and he trusts his farmers, which is how it should be.

But why anyone should feel under pressure to pretend an unfelt insouciance is beyond me: it's not, after all, as if we trusted the Government.

HOUSE INSURANCE
SAVE UP TO 50% or MORE
e.g. LONDON & HOME COUNTIES
£100,000 Buildings Sum Insured
Premium Only £154.00
LOWER Premiums in most Other Areas
Tel: 0181 367 5151 NOW!
Or phone your nearest branch at the local rate on:
0345 123111
Hill House Hammond
Cutting The Cost Of Your Insurance

MOMBASA 14 April - 9 June '96
Kenya's Sun Soaked Beaches
NEPTUNE BEACH/VILLAGE
7 or 14NTS HB £349
TRAVELLERS BEACH/
AFRICANA SEA LODGE
7 or 14NTS HB £399
INDIAN OCEAN BEACH CLUB
7NTS HB £499
All offers can be combined with optional coastal excursions.
The UK's favourite operator to Kenya.
Somak HOLIDAYS
ABTA V5319 AITO ATOL 2550
Ask your local agent, or call now to request your brochure
TEL: 0181 423 3000

Early Summer booking offer to France
£99 GOING GOING...
Car + 5 SeaCat Folkestone to Boulogne return
Offer ends March 31st

Hoverspeed's car + 5 Early Summer Booking Offer - including the Hovercraft Dover to Calais price at £129 return - is fast running out. Not surprising when you consider this includes Premier Class: complimentary refreshment, newspaper and duty and tax free service at your seat. Book before 31.03.96. Call Hoverspeed or see your local travel agent.
CATCH US IF YOU CAN HOVERSPEED FAST FERRIES CALL 01304 240 241
Terms and conditions: Standard return car + 5. Must be booked by 31st March for travel after 01 04 '96. Passengers choose departure days. Hoverspeed specify the crossing times. Fare must be requested at time of booking. Restricted space, subject to availability. Only firm bookings with full payment will be accepted, no amendments permitted.

Alan Coren

■ Our children may outsmart us — but there is a flaw

Cocked as those of all true *Times* people currently are, your ear may be amazed to hear that it is *mine* which has just heard the sound of the cuckoo. It should not be amazed: there is nothing odd about my hearing the sound so early, for this was no ordinary cuckoo. It was a Midwich Cuckoo, and I hear it all the time. I hear it whenever there is any technological advance.

You will recall that John Wyndham, having nearly frightened the life out of us with the idea of plants who were smarter than we were, went on completely to frighten the life out of us with the idea of children who were smarter than we were. For, like the triffids before them, the toddlers of Midwich village had been transmuted into smart-arse monsters against whom grown-ups did not stand a chance.

Could Wyndham have found a more potent dread to tap? Was there ever a parent who, even as it preened over the latest manifestation of offspring cleverness, didn't experience an uneasy twinge that here was something which any moment now could be too hot to handle? And was that ever truer than it is today, when a generation of children ready for the next generation of computers leaves wallowing in its wake a generation of adults not yet ready for the last one?

That is why I have just heard the cry of the Midwich Cuckoo at its shrillest. I heard it the moment after our radiant Heritage Secretary announced that she was considering the V-chip, which would empower parents to delete from the TV set anything they didn't want their kids to watch; and where I heard it was in the instant response of parents terror-stricken that their kids would be able to handle the V-chip far more cleverly than they ever could. Not only would they be able to fiddle with it to release all the sex and violence they wanted, they would be able to fiddle with it to exact a terrible revenge: adult screens would go blank in the middle of *Brookside. Pride and Prejudice* would suddenly turn into *Beavis and Butthead*, Jeremy Paxman would swivel in his seat to find himself facing a satellited Milanese housewife pulling her suspender-belt off. Stick this chip into the family box, wailed the parents, and it will immediately become Pandora's.

Is there, then, nothing to be done? I should not be here if there were. I may not have a complete answer, but I believe I have enough of one to hope that parents may now spend less time staring sleepless at the ceiling, wondering how long it will take their brood to work out their Pin numbers, bypass their phone-lock codes, spring their safe combinations, deduce their PC passwords, and pull any other techno-stunt necessary to transfer the family jewels to a Cayman account so electronically covert as to be inaccessible to anyone over the age of nine. I believe this because someone of the age of nine came to stay last weekend, and, by sheer coincidence, I found a flaw in his technobility which might just be the salvation of us all.

I did not, mind, find it for some time. I took him to see the techno-wondrous *Toy Story* and asked if he'd enjoyed it. He explained how they'd made it. We went home, and he did umpteen things with my computer I didn't even know it did, and then when I tried to, it didn't. A bit later, he spotted a copy of *Captain Hook* on my video shelf and I said he could take it, and he said he wouldn't need to take it if I had a second VCR, and I had, so he did something with wires, and after that we had two copies.

And then he wanted to call home. I pointed to the phone. He looked at me. The phone has a dial. I showed him how to dial. He couldn't do it. The dial took so long to return to rest that he lost track of which of the 11 numbers he had just dialled. He was a keypad kid. And I suddenly knew how to thwart those who have grown up with the new technology. You hit them with the old technology. He could not call Grand Cayman on this phone, even if he twigged my Pin number; and if, moreover, I stuck to a cheque-book, I would not even need a Pin number for him to twig.

And the V-chip? When I was nine, my father bought our first TV set. It had big walnut doors, with a keyhole. My father kept the key in his pocket. Too much *Muffin the Mule* might be bad for you.

Use and abuse of science

Public respect for scientists has been sacrificed during the BSE fiasco

Simon Jenkins

Do not laugh. This has been National Science Week. Scientists across the land have been spreading the messianic "good news" that science is alive and exciting. There have been 5,000 events. The Internet has hummed. But while the publicists have fiddled, Rome has burned. Rarely has the role of the scientist in public life looked more sad, or public trust in his methods been more fragile.

Last year, I detected a new strain in what is now Britain's annual food-scare ritual. It is called Mad Politician Disease, closely related to another virulent strain called Mad Newspaper Syndrome. Both are now raging unchecked, and the infection has spread to Brussels. (Only a cull of the national herd of politicians and journalists offers hope of cure.) What is not clear is the relation of this phenomenon to last week's outbreak of Scientist Inferiority Complex. This too is now rampant. When I saw that the Trade Department had given over its Victoria Street basement for an activity called "Ready. Set96, Go", I knew the epidemic had taken hold.

In the House of Commons last week, the Agriculture and Health Secretaries, Douglas Hogg and Stephen Dorrell, both struggled to dump responsibility for the possible slaughter of thousands of cows on the shoulders of science. Don't ask us what has gone wrong, they said with one voice, ask the scientists. It would, they clearly hoped, be a verbal hop and a skip to, don't blame us, blame them. Ministers were only doing what they were told.

Last December the scientists told them that beef was safe. There was no evidence of a link between a dwindling outbreak of cattle BSE and a few random cases of human CJD. They put the adjective "inconceivable" before the much-abused noun, risk. Ministers took their word for it and cheered. Now, on the basis of the same clinical evidence (or lack of it), the scientists say that they are not so sure. They have put the word *inconceivable* in a test-tube, added a coincidence or two, heated them to hysteria point, and produced a rather different adjective: *extremely small*. To a scientist, this might be no more than a matter of experimental linguistics. To a politician, it freezes bone to marrow and drains blood from every cell. How big is extremely small? A mere adverb qualifies the adjective small, but a chasm divides it from inconceivable. What *is* the difference?

We don't know, say the scientists. Spongiform encephalo-pathologists are not required to have English A level. Nor do they include probability theorists in their number. After last Sunday's meeting they gave five reasons why they could not quantify the apparent shift in risk since last December. These include the small number of humans infected with what appears a new strain, the resulting lack of data on "infectivity", and the large species barrier between cattle and humans. The implication was that the public should merely know that, of ten new cases of CJD in Britain, seven appear to have had contact with farm animals fed before the 1989 ban on possibly contaminated offal. This was in contrast to the previous CJD cases in Britain and on the Continent, which remain inexplicable.

This was hardly enough. We know that in the absence of causal links, science can only work on probabilities. As with possibly environmental conditions such as leukaemia and some cancers, scientists can only look for clusters and investigate coincidences. But I cannot see why this so-called "evidence" could not have been converted into quantified risk. Jargon on infectivity is no help. I want to know where beef-eating stands on the spectrum of reckless liberties that I take with my body every hour of every day. I do not want to hear about inconceivables or extremely smalls. I want to know, from those more knowledgeable than I, where a steak stands alongside an oyster, a North Sea mackerel, a boiled egg and running for the bus. Is it a chance in a million of catching CDJ or a chance in ten million? I am grown up. I can take it on the chin.

In the event, probability was not the scientists' department. But the real catastrophe was what happened next. Science put its reputation at the disposal of politics. The result has been a truly epic systems failure in scientific communication. "Can we still trust them?" cried the *Daily Express*. "Could it be worse than Aids?" screamed the *Daily Mail*. Cartoonists had a field day with mad cows, psychiatric vets, and fastidious cannibals. The Labour Party had French farmers cheering as it demanded the removal of British beef from school menus. The gleeful response of our European "partners" to this discomfiture is still running.

Pre-eminent cause for the failure must be the politicisation of what was at root a matter of statistics. Had ministers kept their fingers out of the pie, the integrity of the advice given them might have been more widely respected. Mr Dorrell now turns up to what seem like hourly media interviews with a scientist at his side, like Don Quixote with Sancho Panza. It is hopeless to plead that the scientist is "independent" when he is patently there to save the minister's bacon. As the antics this week of both Ms Harman and Paddy Ashdown have shown, parliamentary flesh and blood cannot treat a minister as a mere conduit for "independent advice". He must be opposed. If that means rubbishing science, too bad.

This is a disaster for the reputation of science in government. The National Farmers' Union indicated yesterday that the BSE affair had gone "beyond science". This means that the union is happy that enough is being done to eradicate BSE in Britain, but regards enough as no longer sufficient. A "gesture" is apparently required to restore confidence. The gesture may include the mass slaughter of perfectly healthy animals and huge financial compensation. Like some primitive tribe, we are expected to immolate our property to propitiate the raging gods.

The Government should plainly have left the chairman of the spongiform advisory committee and its own Chief Medical Officer to handle last week's terminological adjustment. The matter had nothing to do with party politics. If the Agriculture Ministry was dilatory, as has been claimed, in enforcing the ban on scrapie-infected cattle feed after 1989, that merits a select committee inquiry. Last week, the issue was what applied science had to say about risk. On that at least, science was clear: the risk in eating beef remained so tiny as not to merit further action on anyone's part, including the Government's.

If ministers believed that this was a scientific rather than a political judgment, why did they not let the scientists talk for themselves? The very fact of ministers making the announcement tainted the independence of the advice. So did the venue. I cannot imagine a worse place to discuss the shifting nuances of public health than the chamber of the House of Commons. It is like adjusting a watch with a monkey wrench. After watching Ms Harman and Mr Dorrell abusing each other on Monday, I was not surprised when Brussels concluded that enough was enough, and French Customs turned back British beef lorries. I imagine they would do the same to British politicians.

Mr Dorrell and Mr Hogg may personify sweet reason in this matter. Their actions have been open and their judgments fair. But the result of their hijacking of science to the cause of government is hysteria, panic and possibly huge expense. The system for conveying important information to the public has collapsed and led to grotesque distortion. British farming — and public administration — has been humiliated.

Science did not fail. It bravely stated the extent of its uncertainty. What failed was the public reception of the message of science. Rectifying this has nothing to do with more science teaching or more science funding or more national science weeks. Such public relations merely makes science seem paranoid and intellectually childish. The failure has been in the response of politics to the actions of science.

Last week the Government intervened to "nationalise" what most countries would have left as a non-partisan, industrial and public health matter. The reason is that modern British government cannot keep its hands off anything. The price will be paid not by farmers or ministers but by taxpayers. It will be paid in a diminished public respect for science. That is most unfair. The remedy lies in scientists recovering sovereignty over their own judgments, rather than dancing round maypoles while governments toss coins.

A new model ministry

The culture of the Forces is in flux, says

Sue Cameron

What a time they are having in Whitehall. Racism, sodomy, missing art treasures — and that is just in the Ministry of Defence. Tomorrow the ministry will unveil plans to counteract racism, in response to a report by the Commission for Racial Equality, which has uncovered evidence of discrimination within the Services in general and in the Household Cavalry in particular. Meanwhile, service chiefs and senior defence civil servants are wondering whether the European Court of Human Rights will overturn their ban on homosexuals in the Forces — a ban so draconian that it damns a man for having homosexual tendencies even if he does not betray this by word or deed.

Today, however, the Defence Ministry's most senior civil servant, Richard Mottram, will face a grilling from MPs not on one of these major concerns for his £22 billion department, but about £100,000 worth of prints and paintings which have gone missing, apparently during reorganisations in the 1980s. The irony is that the ministry can expect woeful publicity on all these fronts just as it is trying to rethink some of its outdated practices. Its efforts underline the difficulties of managing change in a world of publicity and political correctness.

The Ministry of Defence shows how much-maligned watchdog bodies such as the Commission for Racial Equality can improve the conduct of institutions. The commission's report was prompted by an incident when a man was seconded from the Royal Engineers to the Household Cavalry — and was promptly sent back again when he was found to be black. It is believed to show that while non-whites make up around 5 per cent of the general population, they account for less than 1.5 per cent of the Armed Forces, and well under 1 per cent of the Household Cavalry.

Privately, officials admit many in the ministry never really believed that equality legislation applied to them. As a result, monitoring of the recruitment and treatment of people from ethnic minorities was lax or worse. Class attitudes have militated against racial fairness in certain regiments, where officers were recruited because they had been to a particular public school or because they were their fathers' sons. But it would of course be perverse to stop recruiting from a school that has provided good people in the past, especially as all who are accepted have to pass the entrance exams.

There is evidence that sometimes people have been steered away from certain regiments with the best of intentions. It is easy to see how black recruits might be discouraged from joining the Household Division for fear that they would be picked on. And soldiers are notoriously resistant to political correctness, victimising anyone who stands out, whether for being black, Welsh or short-sighted. Senior officers in some units have said that if they are to have black recruits they want two or three, not one. But many people would think that approach discriminatory too.

The ministry's new measures may not go as far as some in the race relations industry would like, but they will mark the start of a real drive to change attitudes. They are expected to include the appointment of race relations advisers to all units to guide commanding officers; leaflets for all members of the Forces, spelling out the equal opportunities policy; new complaints procedures; and much tighter monitoring of the recruitment and promotion of members of ethnic minorities.

Whether the changes would have come about without pressure from the commission is doubtful. It may be a salutary lesson to those who deride such bodies that they can enforce reform in areas where it is badly needed and where it might not otherwise be brought about at all. At the same time, senior people in the ministry deserve credit for deciding to update some antediluvian attitudes.

Racial equality is not the only area where they are making the attempt, although when it comes to the treatment of homosexuals and lesbians the ministry should be congratulated more for the thoroughness of its research than for the result. It was again an outsider — a senior judge — who suggested a review of the Forces' attitude to homosexuals, although the court upheld their right to discriminate against them.

The ministry duly undertook research, which involved sending questionnaires to 15 per cent of the 200,000 members of the Armed Forces, finding out how America's "don't ask, don't tell" practice works, and producing a 400-page report. The decision of the Defence Council — composed of ministers, civil servants and military chiefs — was to ban homosexuals, whether overt or discreet.

The justification was that the research shows that 60 per cent of service personnel oppose a "don't ask, don't tell" policy, with 20 per cent in favour and 20 per cent expressing no opinion. The ministry feared that such a policy would offend civilian homosexuals, who would see it as hypocritical or condemnatory.

The ban on overt homosexuality is understandable, whether you agree with it or not; but to outlaw "don't ask, don't tell" lest it raise suspicions about individuals is risible, and there is a good chance the European Court of Human Rights will overturn the ban. It will be interesting to see how far the ministry will be prepared to go in revamping attitudes if that happens.

Sacred cows

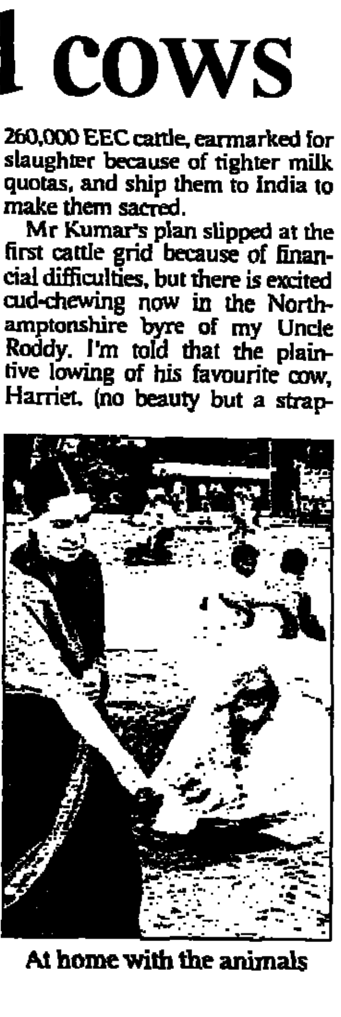
BEFORE Harriet Harman kills off our national herd, I feel she should be apprised of the bovine news from India. The World Hindu Council in Delhi will meet today to consider offering religious asylum to some of our unwanted beasts.

Hindus are appalled by the prospect of a national slaughter: they believe that cows should be treated as members of the family. "Every part of the cow is medicinal," explains Giriraj Kishore, the Secretary General of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad Party, or World Hindu Council. "Its milk is medicinal. Its dung is anti-radioactive and a germ-killer — I am using cow-dung soap and it has removed my itch." (Must try that one.)

"We are meeting tomorrow," he goes on, "to decide what to do with this British problem. We can send representation to Britain to argue that the cow should be saved. And we will consider offering some of the British cows sacred refuge in India."

The notion has its precedent, of course. In 1985, *The Times of India* reported that Mr Muni Shushil Kumar, of the World Parliament of Religions, was planning to buy 260,000 EEC cattle, earmarked for slaughter because of tighter milk quotas, and ship them to India to make them sacred.

Mr Kumar's plan slipped at the first cattle grid because of financial difficulties, but there is excited cud-chewing now in the Northamptonshire byre of my Uncle Roddy. I'm told that the plaintive lowing of his favourite cow, Harriet, (no beauty but a strapping milker, whose calves go to selective organic farms) has caught the attention of the local MP, Tony Marlow.



At home with the animals

Eddie's song

CELEBRITY fans of *The Archers* are dusting down their ten-gallon hats for an ol' hoedown on the Grange Farm ranch. A Country Music album being recorded by Eddie Grundy (Trevor Harrison) has stars of the music world in a delirious spin.

The far-from-rural crooner Elvis Costello has already donated a song for Harrison to record, and negotiations with other stars are advanced. "We are talking Sir Cliff Richard and Billy Connolly. Our people are negotiating with their people," says a hipster from Demon Records, which is producing the album. Both Sir Cliff and Connolly are *Archers* addicts. At his wedding to the actress Pamela Stephenson on the island of Fiji, Connolly sought out a native choir, which sung out the theme tune to a bagpipe accompaniment.

● *Emma Thompson's gratefully gushing performance as she collected an Oscar for best screenplay delighted us Brits but found little favour with Ethan Hawke, the young American film star. "I hate Emma Thompson," he snarled. "I think she and Glenn Close should get together and do a movie called 'We Simper Smugly' — co-starring Robin Williams."*

Freeze . . .

THE BEEF scare has contributed to an atmosphere of fear at the BBC. Latest casualty: corporate fridges. A memorandum informs staff that, from next month, each department will be asked to pay £2 to have its fridges cleaned. Earthy types who choose not to avail themselves of the service will be required to sign a disclaimer absolving the BBC of blame.

Roadblock

LORD PALUMBO, who reduced the price of his Berkshire home, the Bagnor Manor estate, from £10 million to nearer £6 million because he couldn't sell it, may at least have hooked a buyer for his farmland.

His Georgian mansion is proving virtually impossible to sell because it stands just a Scotch egg's throw from the planned Newbury bypass. But I understand that the farmland (some 1,000 acres) and the river are about to change hands for about £2.5 million.

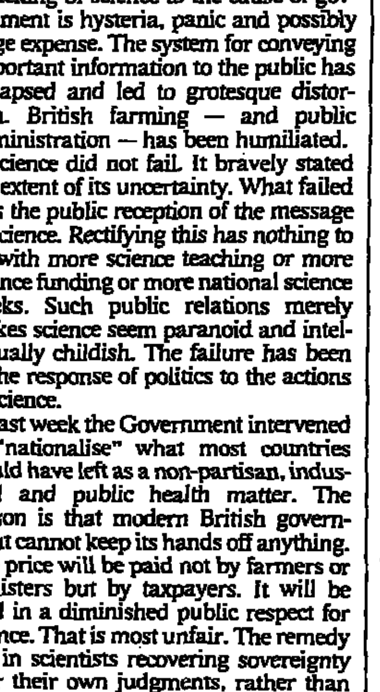
● *Hearty congratulations to Lady Anne Brewis, daughter of the 3rd Earl of Selborne, who celebrated her 85th birthday yesterday. She has at last completed her epic,* The Flora of Hampshire, *a work that has been more than 40 years in gestation.*

Wheeled off

POOR Sir John Wheeler, MP for Westminster North. His government post, as junior Northern Ireland Minister, may have put the kibosh on his parliamentary career. He cannot find a constituency to take him on after his present one disappears at the next election. It is too much for local parties, it seems, to adopt as their candidate a man said to rank third on the IRA's hit-list.

Wheeler, 55, is the only minister not to have emerged with a new seat from the chicken-run that as sparked by last summer's constituency changes. Peter Lilley, Nicholas Soames and Sir George Young head the list of those who managed successfully to snaffle safe new seats.

"It does put the constituencies off when the Security Services have to sweep the meeting rooms and search selection committees," explains Peter Randall-Johnson, Wheeler's party agent. Showing the tenacity that has made him a hit in Northern Ireland, Wheeler is still trying.



"I'm sorry — you can only have Plasticine bones for the moment"

P·H·S

هكذا من الاهل

HERE WE GO AGAIN

The cow crisis exposes, once more, Major's fatal flaw

Less than a year after this Government was elected it suffered a devastating assault on its credibility. With its remaining lifespan now in months another blow has been dealt to faith in Conservative competence. John Major may have ERM engraved on his heart but BSE is bidding fair to be tattooed alongside.

There is more than an element of ill-luck in this. Prudent steps were taken as far back as 1989 to minimise danger. The cases of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease which sparked the current scare, if they come from infected beef, were contracted before 1989. Throughout this week ministers have sought to deal plainly in the devalued currency of scientific opinion. But all that is set at very little in comparison to the overwhelming impression of an administration, once more, at the mercy of events instead of shaping them.

Generous voters might conclude that Mr Major's Government is just plain unlucky. But, even though the Prime Minister has been dealt a succession of poor hands, there is a pattern to the way he has played many of them that points to a flaw in his style of government. Too often Mr Major has held to a position long after it should have been abandoned, and then when the maximum disadvantage has accrued, he has folded.

From the first, forlorn defence of David Mellor's Cabinet post to the disaster of Black Wednesday, through the subsequent support and then ignominious ditching of Norman Lamont to the caving-in on qualified majority voting in the EU and the futile opposition to Lord Nolan's recommendations on disclosure of MPs' earnings, the pattern recurs.

The beef scare seems to be following the familiar path. As with Nolan, the Government appears to be on the side of the greedy, in this case farmers rather than MPs, but looks set to leave them poorer, and angrier, at the end of the affair. As with the ERM, radical measures, devaluation then and slaughter now, were pressed from outside, considered, and then rejected only to become ever more likely as a result of relentless market pressure. It is devoutly to be hoped, for the sake of the beef industry, and the Conservative Party, that history does not repeat itself once again in a manner which would be farcical for the Tories but tragic for the farmers.

Potentially most damaging of all is the allegation that the slaughter of cattle was rejected by ministers because they feared the impact on the Exchequer. The idea that decisions on food safety should be so influenced by public spending considerations could alarm even those who are least cynical of ministerial motives.

Europe may yet offer some salvation. The EU's decision to ban British beef provides a rallying point. Revelations that the spread of disease in continental herds may have been hidden lend principled weight to patriotic outrage. It has always seemed odd, given the nature of the cattle trade, that BSE should appear so prevalent in the UK and so very rare elsewhere. Reports from Italy suggest the picture is altogether more complex than many in Europe would wish. But, as with the ERM, crises abroad are cold comfort for those afflicted at home.

Labour has little to lose by pressing home its political advantage. The constituencies it seeks to win are predominantly suburban or semi-industrial, many of them in younger towns such as Luton, Swindon or Bolton where the party that poses as mother's helper rather than farmer's friend will benefit. Labour's stance is not without risks. Older figures in the Shadow Cabinet are cautious about a position which may appear unpatriotic. Commitments pressed on the Government now may have to be paid for by a Labour administration next year. The argument advanced by Peter Mandelson and Harriet Harman that deregulation is responsible for the crisis in what is still Britain's most heavily regulated industry will not convince everyone. But, as with executive pay, Labour is happy to exploit populist discontent. It may make the job of governing in future more difficult but it also makes it more likely.

POPA RAILWAY

Sharebuyers may be less at risk from Labour than they think

The one pledge that is guaranteed to raise the roof at a Labour Party gathering is to a "publicly owned, publicly accountable" railway system. The promise has been made so often that it is surprising that it has not simply been shortened to POPA, as one-member-one-vote became OMOV. The trouble is, a Labour government would not have the money to buy back Railtrack or the operators. Tony Blair and Gordon Brown know this; but they have been able to keep the Left happy with this meaningless mantra until now.

Meaning will, however, have to be inserted into it — and soon. The prospectus for the privatisation of Railtrack, whose advertising campaign started yesterday, will be published next month, and it will have to contain a detailed section on "political risk". This is a euphemism for the danger that Labour might confiscate Railtrack shareholders' voting rights, dividends or shares, or regulate the company's profits out of existence.

So far Labour has adopted a double-pronged approach. On one side are Mr Brown and Clare Short, Shadow Transport Secretary, who want to shift subsidy from the operators to Railtrack in return for cutting the track charges to operators. Once Railtrack is in receipt of large sums from the Government, they think that this could act as a surrogate for public ownership. On the other side are John Prescott, deputy leader and former occupant of Ms Short's job, and Brian Wilson, her deputy. They want to convert ordinary shares to preference shares, thus transferring shareholders' voting rights to the Government. This would require primary legislation and would be hugely complex.

Messrs Prescott and Wilson are convinced that popular opinion is on their side. Left-wing opinion certainly is: renationalisation of rail is the sop that is always thrown to the Left in return for other "new" Labour policies. But Labour has worked hard and to considerable effect to gain goodwill in the City. The trust that it has secured is fragile enough to be destroyed if the party were to start interfering with shareholders' rights except through buying fairly in the market. Is Mr Blair really going to put the demands of the RMT rail union (which, incidentally, has several members of Arthur Scargill's new party on its executive) above the goodwill of the City?

The chances are that Ms Short's subsidy option will be adopted. As far as the Left is concerned, this will be a fudge. Giving a company a subsidy is no substitute for ownership. It is an indirect and not even guaranteed form of control: that is all. It could not be exchanged for equity except either by buying shares, which would be too expensive, or by diluting the equity, which shareholders would not tolerate.

Labour can always continue to harbour a theoretical long-term aspiration to renationalisation. But, like common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange, it is never going to be put into practice. Each time that the party conference calls for renationalisation, the Chancellor of the day merely has to ask activists from which public service they would like to take the several billion pounds that a buyback would cost. Education? Health? Putting the unemployed back to work? For new Railtrack shareholders, the political risk is likely to be less than the discount on the new shares may suggest.

TIE ME UP, TIE ME DOWN

Why the Oscars are not half as smart as they used to be

We should not really complain about the Oscars. After all, our Emma Thompson won a wee gong — even though her unattractive acceptance speech deserved only brickbats — and a film with a Scots theme, *Braveheart*, won the award for best picture in sight. But we do have a complaint, and it has nothing to do with the judges' decisions: what happened to the black tie and why was this formal dress given such short shrift by America's gifted great and good?

One should not exaggerate the emergency, of course, but America's film stars have let the starched side down. Black tie may have been a British invention, but its preservation as a smart man's must-wear is pure New World good sense.

Ever since Griswold Lorrilard introduced the dinner jacket at his club at Tuxedo, New York, in 1886, the dress-coat without tails (worn in the evening as a less formal alternative to the swallow-tailed "soup and fish") has been the preferred dinner-wear of elegant men around the world. But only in America does it still survive with its dignity intact: even in once-stuffy Britain, where glad rags used to be *de rigueur*, black tie risks confinement to Oxbridge high tables, ambitious undergraduate dining societies and London livery companies.

For Hollywood to turn its back on the tuxedo is a serious affair indeed. Informal modern menswear cannot match its muted elegance, even on manicured male film bodies. Quentin Letts, writing today on our foreign pages, describes the full horror of the decline — from which account a wider question must emerge.

What use is Hollywood's decadence if it springs not from formality? Smooth Clark Gable often leant across and kissed his swooning ladies on screen with his tuxedo and tie on: minutes later his jacket was off and his bow tie askew, undress that spoke of high-class passion. Frank Sinatra took his encores his way, his bow tie undone in languid indication of well-dressed masculinity.

This year's Oscars were distressing precisely because there were so few ties to undo. "There is no time, sir," Jeeves once intoned to Bertie Wooster, "when a tie does not matter." What that wondrous Desert Island valet *would have made* of sloppy Steven Spielberg, or Robin Williams, or even Jeremy Irons (who should have known better) is a question we feel bound to ask. Jeeves would surely have shuddered — as he would, almost certainly, at *Braveheart* or *Leaving Las Vegas* — and handed in his resignation. What good are those darn Oscars, we ask, without the "full fig"?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Responsible advice and choice of the consumer on BSE

From Sir Simon Gourlay

Sir, Over the last few days ministers have stated time and again that the Government has consistently acted on the basis of the best scientific advice available on BSE and have denied any charge that they or their predecessors have ever dragged their feet in implementing measures recommended by that advice. They seem painfully unaware that the manner of government statements over the last ten years is itself largely responsible for today's acute loss of credibility in almost anything they may say about BSE.

Ministers have failed to take account of the fact that scientific knowledge on encephalopathy is not, and for a very long time cannot be, definitive. If you make pronouncements based on the science of the day which read as though cast in tablets of stone, you look flat footed when the frontiers of knowledge move on. Do it often enough and you run out of credibility: especially when government, on its own subsequent admission, was responsible in the first place for the BSE disaster by lowering the standards for treatment of offals in animal feeds.

As you rightly point out in your leader today, it is sometimes essential to go beyond the science of the day to retain consumer confidence. The National Farmers Union recommended to MAFF certain measures in 1990, which were rejected at the time, nearly all of which have since been implemented. Ministerial fury directed at the EU veterinary committee's decision to ban all export of British beef will get us precisely nowhere.

We have got to move fast and well beyond the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee's analysis if we are to save a great tranche of our beef industry — including the vitally important processing sector — from annihilation. To remove cattle born before 1991 from the food chain at the end of their productive life would be neither logistically difficult nor ruinously expensive.

There is another crucial element in restoring consumer confidence. In your leader on Monday you suggested that "food scares can be better handled in future only by a clearer division of responsibility". You should be more forthright and more explicit. As we wait for the further events of this week to reveal the extent of the collapse in the British beef industry and who may be going to pick up the tab, let us begin a vigorous campaign for a food and drug agency, totally independent of any government department, with a clear duty to inform and advise without let or hindrance by any politician.

Parliament would still be responsible for the enactment and enforcement of appropriate regulatory measures, but the politicians would not be responsible for saying whether or not something was safe. Others would advise: consumers would then make up their own minds on whether or not to heed that advice.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON GOURLAY
(President of the National
Farmers Union, 1986-91),
Maryvale Farms,
Hill House Farm, Knighton, Powys.
March 26.

From Mr Kirk Mayer

Sir, This week I decided I should have beef for two evening meals rather than the usual one — supporting the home team and all that.

I had reckoned without one of the leading supermarket chains. Unless I wanted a joint of prime Scottish beef my preferred choice would be missing from the menu. The supermarket had decided that mince and the cheaper cuts should not be an option, and they had been withdrawn.

Am I now denied even the opportunity to influence my life? Are my choices to be made for me, by those who think they know better?

The collapse in demand for beef now seems certain, despite this consumer's wishes.

Yours faithfully,
KIRK MAYER,
The Limes, 25 Rheda Park,
Frizington, Cumbria.
March 26.

From Mrs Mary Todman

Sir, Why not return to the Creator's design and feed them grass?

Yours faithfully,
MARY TODMAN,
1 Eblands Cottages,
Challow Road,
Wantage, Oxfordshire.
March 21.

From the Provost of Portsmouth

Sir, As I observe the response to the BSE scare by the general public and by government, both in this country and elsewhere, I am bound to note the difference as compared to that towards the much more scientifically-proven lethal dangers of tobacco.

Are we now to expect a mass withdrawal of availability of cigarettes and other tobacco products, and more active opposition by parents to the increasing incidence of smoking among the young? Or shall we continue as we are through the complacent wishful thinking of the public and the Government's dependence on the taxation revenues?

If I were a cynic, I would wonder if it is easier to hit the farmer than the tobacco multinationals in the cause of the nation's health.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL L. YORKE,
Provost's House,
Pembroke Road,
Old Portsmouth, Hampshire.
March 25.

From Mrs Hilary Edwards

Sir, Is it not unrealistic of the Government to expect the British people to ignore the very small risk of catching "mad cow" disease from eating British beef, when they expect them to buy tickets for the National Lottery?

Yours faithfully,
HILARY EDWARDS,
57 Staunton Road, Oxford.
March 25.

From Dr John Iredale and Dr Gordon Stewart

Sir, You report today that the Government has "stopped short" of a slaughter policy for British beef. We therefore await with interest the outcome of this prospective experiment in human neurology.

Beef that may be contaminated with a potentially fatal and untreatable disease of unknown infectivity, apparently resistant to all commonly used sterilising treatments employed in everyday cooking, is made available to a subject group (the British population) including children and pregnant mothers; the control group (the rest of the world) is fed apparently normal beef.

The results will no doubt be published in *The Lancet* when the experiment is complete in perhaps ten years' time. Our question is: who gave ethical permission for this study?

Yours sincerely,
JOHN IREDALE,
GORDON STEWART,
University College London
Medical School and Royal Free
Hospital School of Medicine,
The Rayne Institute,
5 University Street, WC1.
March 28.

Trainee lawyers

From the Chairman of the Bar Council

Sir, This council is increasingly concerned about problems encountered by law students in funding their postgraduate vocational education and training (report, March 12, later editions). The significant reduction in the availability of local authority awards in recent years has made it increasingly difficult for students who do not have parental financial support to fund such training: this inevitably means that some able students are deterred from a career in the law.

Last year the Inns of Court offered awards amounting to £1.6 million to those entering the profession; and the Bar itself provided a total of about £4.5 million in pupillage awards.

The Bar Council is seeking to persuade the Government of the need for urgent action. It must take steps to ensure that funding sources are available for those able students who would otherwise be excluded.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID PENRY-DAVEY,
Chairman,
The General Council of the Bar,
3 Bedford Row, WC1.
March 19.

Rating anomaly

From Mr P. M. Reed

Sir, Mr Stephen Kingsley, in his letter about business rates (March 18), rightly highlights one of the absurdities that are now becoming endemic in what was once a simple tax calculated by multiplying the annual value by the "rate poundage" for the year.

Members of the Rating Surveyors' Association value properties for rating purposes throughout the country and are faced with trying to explain the inexplicable to ratepayers. At the root of the problem lie the "transitional arrangements". In the 1990 quinquennial rating lists, these arrangements favoured the south and damaged the north; the 1995 arrangements are working in roughly the opposite direction.

Under the 1990 arrangements, the Government eventually managed to remove the pain from the sufferers; but last autumn's Budget has actually slowed down the process of transition, providing no help to those already suffering (like Mr Kingsley).

The transitional arrangements are distorting the free market in property in this country, and ways must be found sooner than later to do away with the scheme.

Yours faithfully,
P. M. REED
(Vice-President,
The Rating Surveyors' Association),
c/o King Sturge & Co,
7 Stratford Place, W1.
March 19.

Business letters, page 29

Standards at the bench

From Mr Francis C. Palmer, JP

Sir, In 1985 one of the magistrates on my bench received a letter from the Lord Chancellor's office criticising her severely for being guilty of driving at 45mph in a built-up area. There was a subtle hint of resignation. She was a most conscientious magistrate and a credit to the bench. As chairman, whilst not condoning her offence, I wrote to the Lord Chancellor's office expressing concern at such treatment.

I suggested that it would be more appropriate to deal severely with some of the recent appointees who were not measuring up to the standards required, giving evidence to support my views. The Lord Chancellor's office replied by informing me that "it is Advisory Committees that [the Lord Chancellor] looks to for recommendations for appointment to the Bench", and that no chairman of a bench should think he had a right to be a member or to attend meetings of that committee.

On *Panorama* last night an anonymous interviewee proudly proclaimed he had been a magistrate for ten years, had been growing and smoking cannabis for twenty, and tried to influence his colleagues to take a lenient view when dealing with drug offences. So self-confessed criminals are being appointed to the bench. This appears to support my complaint of ten years ago that standards were being lowered in favour of a greater "spread" of appointees. And the system of appointing advisory committee members might also be reviewed.

Yours truly,
F. C. PALMER,
2 Rose Bushes,
Epsom Downs, Surrey.
March 26.

Caught speeding

From Mr Graham Allen, MP for Nottingham North (Labour)

Sir, I was saddened to read your report, "183 drivers are caught speeding in one hour" (later editions, March 19; letter, March 23). The fact that so many cars on this stretch of road were breaking the law reflects the culture of speeding that has developed over the last twenty years. Behaviour such as this cannot simply be eradicated overnight, but the Government has consistently failed to implement any measures that tackle the problem at its core.

Speeding is now the cause of nearly one-third of road deaths. Yet the Government's approach to reducing fatalities among pedestrians and cyclists is to warn them of road dangers rather than attempting to improve driving standards. Speed cameras are a valuable weapon in the fight against speeding, yet they must be part of an overall transport strategy, with education beginning in schools about how to use roads safely, whether on foot or in a car.

There must be stricter enforcement of penalties. The motorists caught in Kent will probably consider themselves unlucky and keep their eyes peeled for speed cameras in future rather than reduce their speed.

Speeding is potentially as dangerous as drink-driving. We can no longer treat it as socially acceptable behaviour.

Yours sincerely,
GRAHAM ALLEN
(Shadow Minister for Transport),
House of Commons.

Economic insecurity

From Councillor Malcolm Hyland

Sir, I believe there is another side to Peter Riddell's excellent article, "Economic insecurity remains the Tories' bugbear" (March 26). That is the false confidence of the Seventies and Eighties with which we compare our present conditions. These periods of high inflation and wage settlements and costly work practices have contributed directly, together with the relentless march of new technology, to the present levels of unemployment and today's insecurity.

This country has gone through a painful readjustment but it now has a sound economic foundation on which to build and bring with it lasting and well founded confidence. We should all adjust to these new realities and not hark back to the false security of yesteryear.

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM HYLAND (Councillor,
Shortlands Ward, Bromley),
13 Linden Grove, Sydenham, SE26.

Pupils and faith

From Mr Stephen Morris

Sir, Mr Howard Grace (letter, March 20) rightly believes religious education in schools is "diverse". The reason is that many RE specialists fear religions as living faiths and prefer to reduce them to sociological phenomena, which may interest but not influence their pupils.

The major role for religious education is to import more than information — the challenge, the spirit and the reality of faiths.

Yours,
STEPHEN MORRIS
(Head of Religious Education),
Beverley Grammar School,
Queensgate,
Beverley, East Yorkshire.
March 20.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Climbers' concern for Cairn Gorm

From Sir Chris Bonington and others

Sir, We write as the current president and former presidents of the Alpine Club to draw attention to the proposal, conditionally approved by the Highland Regional Council, to build a funicular railway to the summit of Cairn Gorm, Scotland's fourth highest mountain, together with a large visitor centre and facilities on the summit plateau itself.

We recognise the understandable concerns of the local communities to forward development in this area of the Highlands. But this proposal would do irreversible damage to one of Europe's most important wild areas, both in landscape and nature-conservation terms.

If the Government's commitment to the environment and to sustainable development is to mean anything, the need for sensitivity in the development of this fragile area must surely lie at the top of its priorities, not least because the Cairngorms are generally recognised as being of World Heritage site quality.

We ask the Secretary of State for Scotland to intervene and set in train a strategic analysis of the development needs of the whole Glenmore corridor, consistent with the preservation of this unique environment. We believe there are solutions which are consistent with the Government's commitment to sustainable development.

We believe that all mountaineers and conservationists would enthusiastically co-operate in a statesmanlike approach such as this.

Yours etc,
CHRIS BONINGTON (President),
JOHN HUNT (President, 1956-59),
J. H. EMLYN JONES (1980-83),
CHORLEY (1983-86),
GEORGE BAND (1987-90),
H. R. A. STREATHER (1990-93),
M. H. WESTMACOTT (1993-95),
The Alpine Club,
55/56 Charlotte Road, EC2.

Glen Brittle

From Mr Ernest Carr

Sir, On March 13 you published a letter of mine on a proposal to build a restaurant, shop and hostel, with a large car and coach park, in Glen Brittle on the Isle of Skye, on an unspoilt site of great natural beauty.

All those who were concerned about the damage that this would have caused will be glad to know that the Highland Regional Council has now informed the 150 objectors that the developers have withdrawn their planning application.

Yours faithfully,
ERNEST CARR,
17 Bertram Road, Liverpool.
March 23.

Catch 23?

From Dr N. D. Barnes

Sir, Psychological profiling for all gun licence applicants (News in brief, March 25)? We underestimate the contribution of Joseph Heller on such matters.

There need be no restriction on applying for a licence for any handgun. It is evident that making such an application indicates unsuitability and should be refused.

Yours faithfully,
NICK BARNES,
Rhee House, Church Street,
Harston, Cambridgeshire.
March 25.

Heartening news

From Mr D. J. Kiernan

Sir, With the recent announcement that consumption of alcohol (in moderate quantities) can reduce the risk of heart disease (report, March 22) it is surely now time for the Government to remove the tax from this health-giving product.

Yours faithfully,
D. J. KIERNAN,
1 Mayday Cottages,
Bury Road, Brandon, Suffolk.

In the chair

From Mr T. M. H. Scott

Sir, The answer to the question posed by Lord Esher (letter, March 23) is that the Scots convenor in almost every case has not actually convened the meeting. The word is, therefore, even more silly than chair or chairperson.

If we are to depart from the time-honoured term chairman, a better solution would be "presider", for it accurately describes what he or she actually does.

Yours sincerely,
T. M. H. SCOTT,
236 Banstead Road, Banstead, Surrey.
March 24.

From Mr S. R. Lancelyn Green

Sir, When an eminent judge from these parts was approached by an official who introduced herself as a chair she replied: "In that case I'm the bench".

Anyone who thinks they are a chair ought in my view to be sat on.

Yours faithfully,
S. R. LANCELYN GREEN,
Poulton Hall, Poulton Lancelyn,
Bebington, Wirral, Merseyside.
March 23.

COURT CIRCULAR

BELVEDERE PALACE
WARSAW
March 26: The Queen this morning visited the British Council, Warsaw, and toured the building, meeting staff and Polish contacts of the Council.

Her Majesty afterwards visited Stefan Batory School, watched a theatrical performance and toured the School.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh later attended a Reception for members of the British Community at the Palace on the Water, Lazienki Park.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness subsequently gave a Luncheon at the Hotel Bristol.

This afternoon The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visited the Sejm and Her Majesty was received by the Marshal of the Sejm and the Marshal of the Senate.

Later The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were received by the Prime Minister in The President's Study.

Her Majesty, accompanied by His Royal Highness and The President of the Republic of Poland, addressed the Parliament.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh later laid a Wreath at the Liberator Stone, Skaryszewski Park, and met veterans.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness this evening attended a performance of "La Fille Mal Gardee", before giving a Reception, at the National Theatre, Warsaw.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning attended a British/Polish Chamber of Commerce Seminar at the Hotel Bristol.

His Royal Highness afterwards visited the University of Warsaw and was present at the Signing of an Agreement between Warsaw and Cambridge University in the Senate Room.

The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon met a Polish-British Parliamentary group at the Sejm.

By Command of The Queen, Vice Admiral Sir James Weatherall (Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps) called upon His Excellency Señor Don Ernesto Trigueros at 159 Great Portland Street, London W1, this morning in order to bid farewell to His Excellency upon relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador from the Republic of El Salvador to the Court of St James's.

By Command of Her Majesty, Vice Admiral Sir James Weatherall (Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps) caled upon His Excellency Mr Amar Bendjama at 54 Holland Park, London W11, this morning in order to bid farewell to His Excellency upon relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador from the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria to the Court of St James's.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Sir Brian McGrath at the Service of Thanksgivng for the Life of the Lord Glendevon which was held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, London SW1, today.

The Duke of Kent was represented by Major General Iain Mackay-Dick.

Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy was represented by the Lady Mary Mumford.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 26: The Prince Edward, President, this evening attended a performance of "the Threepenny Opera" given by the National Youth Music Theatre at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, London W6.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 26: The Princess Royal this morning attended the National Equine Forum at the Royal Veterinary College, University of London, Royal College Street, London NW1.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, College of Occupational Therapists, this afternoon attended the National Vocational Qualifications Conference at 6-8 Marshalsea Road, Lonon SE1.

The Princess Royal, Patron, SENSE — the National Deafblind and Rubella Association, this evening attended a Fortieth Anniversary Reception at Buckingham Palace.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, the Development Trust (for the Mentally Handicapped), later attended a Dinner a 2 Wilton Terrace, London SW1.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 26: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was represented by The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of the Lord Glendevon which was held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, today.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 26: The Prince of Wales this afternoon commenced a two day seminar to discuss agriculture and the environment in the European context.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 26: The Princess Margaret Countess of Snowdon, Master of the Bench, this evening dined with the Treasurer and Past Treasurers of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 26: The Duke of Gloucester was present at the Worshipful Company of Constructors' Ladies' Banquet at Mansion House, London EC4.

Today's royal engagements

The Duchess of Kent, as President of Marie Curie Cancer Care, will attend a reception at the Mansion House at 6.25.

Schools news

Queen Margaret's School, York

Queen Margaret's School, York, announces the award of the following Scholarships for September 1996.

Academic
11+ Entrance: Averill Blundell, Lady Lane; Anoushka Kenley, Brackenfield; Samantha Roebuck, Terrington Hall.
12+: Jennifer Blanco, QMS; Sarah Illingworth, The Minster School.
13+: Iona Sanders, Mowden Hall.
Sixth Form: Cecily Boys, QMS; Hannah Foster, QMS; Katy Marchbank-Smith, QMS; Catherine Nightingale, Polam Hall.
Music
Camilla Horsfield, The Minster School; Rowena Macrae, Croftinloan.

The Royal College of Anaesthetists

Professor C. Prys-Roberts and Professor C.J. Hull have been re-elected President and Vice-President respectively of the Royal College of Anaesthetists and Professor L. Strunin has been elected Vice-President, to take effect from June 19, 1996.

Lord Marshall of Goring

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Lord Marshall of Goring will take place in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, at noon on Thursday, May 2. Those wishing to attend are requested to apply for tickets to: The Rector's Secretary, Room 2, 1 Little Cloister, Westminster Abbey, SW1P 3PL, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope. Tickets will be posted on April 22.

Ann Blaikie

A memorial Mass in Thanksgiving for the life of Ann Blaikie will be celebrated in Westminster Cathedral on Saturday, April 27, 1996, at 2.00pm.

Reunion

St James's Secretarial College, London SW5

There will be an old girls reunion. For information tel: 01242 261459.

MICHAEL POWELL

Students at the Royal Ballet School in west London rehearsing yesterday after the announcement of an extra 100 state-funded places at music and ballet schools, bringing the total to 600. The scheme will also fund tuition and boarding. Dance, page 38

Dinners

Constructors' Company

The Duke of Gloucester presented The Vellum of the Constructors' Company to the 1994 Geoffrey Williams Scholar, Mr Stuart Gethin, at the Constructors' ladies dinner held last night at the Mansion House. The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, were present. The Master, Mr Anthony Appleton, presided and presented the Lord Mayor with a cheque for his appeal for St John Ambulance. The Duke of Gloucester, the Lord Mayor and Mr Peter Steer also spoke.

Lord Mayor of Westminster

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster were the hosts at the annual civic dinner of the City of Westminster held last night at the Dorchester hotel. Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Members of both Houses of Parliament, Mayors of London Boroughs, representatives of the Church and other Faiths, HM Forces, the emergency services, the arts, commerce, representatives of voluntary and charitable organisations and other friends of Westminster were present.

Shipwrights' Company

Mr David Steel, QC, was the principal guest and speaker at a dinner of the Shipwrights' Company held last night at Ironmongers' Hall. Mr Ole S. Kverndal, Prime Warden, presided.

European-Atlantic Group

Sir David Hannay was the guest speaker at a dinner of the European-Atlantic Group held last night at the St Ermin's Hotel. Lord Dahrendorf, chairman, presided.

Weavers' Company

Mr J.G.Y. Radcliffe, Upper Bailiff of the Weavers' Company, welcomed Miss Caroline Charles at the company's annual textile awards held yesterday at Saddlers' Hall.

The Young Weaver of the Year was awarded to Mr Jody correct Ingram and the Weavers' Company medal and prize to Mr J.R. Corrin. The Royal College of Art and the Bolton Institute of Higher Education received technology awards. Design Awards went to The Royal Society of Arts, Texprint, the Design Trust and the Royal College of Art. The Northern Textile Museums Training project also received an award.

Memorial services

Lord Glendevon

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Sir Brian McGrath and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother by Princess Margaret at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Lord Glendevon held yesterday in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks. The Duke of Kent was represented by Major-General Iain Mackay-Dick, Prince Michael of Kent by Sir Peter Scott and Princess Alexandra by Lady Mary Mumford.

The Rev Roy McAllen officiated, assisted by the Rev Jonathan Gough. Lord Glendevon, son, read the lesson and the Hon Jonathan Hope, son, read an extract from his father's memoirs, *Thanks for The Laughter*. Sir Edward Cazalet gave an address. Among others present were:

Lady Glendevon (widow), Mr and Mrs Nicolas Paravicini (stepson and stepdaughter-in-law), Count and Countess Chandon de Briailles (stepson-in-law and stepdaughter), Lieutenant-Commander P and Lady Anne Southby (brother-in-law and sister), Lady Doreen Prior-Palmer (sister), Colonel W Gore Langton, the Marquess of Linlithgow, Lady Sarah Jane Learoyd, the Earl and Countess of Pembroke, Lady Diana Herbert, the Earl and Countess of Hopetoun, Miss Sacha Mavroleon, Mr and Mrs Charles Paravicini, Miss Elizabeth Ann Paravicini, Mr Derek Paravicini, Mr Simon and Lady Julia Prior-Palmer, Mrs Lucinda Green, Mr Martin Kenyon, Miss Eliza Kenyon, Mr Jeremy Learoyd, the Hon Mrs Marr-Johnson, the Hon Simon and Mrs Maxwell, Mr and Mrs Jay Radway, Mr and Mrs David Howard, Lord Bertie Hope, Lady Louisa Hope.

The Earl and Countess De La Warr, the Dowager Countess De La Warr, the Earl and Countess of Airlie, the Countess of Avon, the Earl of Scarbrough, Earl Ferrers, Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard, Viscount Whitelaw, KT, CH, and Viscountess Whitelaw, Viscountess Hambleden, Viscount Head, Viscount and Viscountess Esher, Lord Buckhurst, Lord Carrington, KG, CH, Lady Thorneycroft, Lord Hartwell, Lord Westbury, Lord and Lady Monson, Lord Renton, QC, Lord Hindlip, Lord and Lady Charteris of Amisfield, Margaret Lady Gretton, Lord Sherfield, Lord Congleton, Lord Hastings, Lord and Lady Holderness, Lord Camoys, Lord Moore of Wolvercote (representing King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Foundation of St Catharine's, Cumberland Lodge), the Dowager Lady Hindlip.

Lady Anne Cowdray, Lady Elizabeth Longman, Lady Daphne Straight, Lady Amabel Lindsay, Lady Margaret Colville, the Hon Mrs Stopford-Sackville, the Hon Sir Charles and Lady Morrison, the Hon Mrs Patterson, the Hon Lady Cazalet, the Hon Lady de Zulueta, the Hon Mrs Wyndham, the Hon Mrs Townend, the Hon Edward Sackville, the Hon Julian Guest, Sir George and Lady Kennard, Lady Dean, Lady Lloyd, Sir Edward Ford, Lady (Michael) Wilkins, Lieutenant-General Sir Alexander and Lady Boswell, Sir Arthur Collins, Lady Hornby, Sir Michael Craig-Cooper, Sir John Killick, Sir Shane and Lady Blewitt, Sir Alastair Aird, Mr F Petre Crowder, QC, and the Hon Mrs Petre Crowder, Mr Charles and Lady Katherine Farrell.

Mr Raleigh Trevelyan, Dr Lawson McDonald, Major Thomas Harvey, Mr and Mrs Neil Maconochie, Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Blaker, Mrs Louisa Lane Fox, Mr J Paravicini, Mrs K R Maxwell-Hyslop, Mr David Silvester, Mrs John Longden, Mr and Mrs Robin Compton, Mr David Bankes, Mrs Peter Cazalet, Mrs Roderic More O'Ferrall, Mr Roger Smith, Dr Frank Tait, Mr David Bankes, Mr and Mrs Michael Devas, Mr Philip Ziegler, Mr Kenneth Rose, Judge and Mrs Marr-Johnson, Mr Simon Parker Bowles, Major-General R H Whitworth, Major and Mrs Narindar Saroop, Mr and Mrs Robin Compton, Mr O von Hofmannsthal, Mr and Mrs John Profumo, Captain Anthony Hobson, Mr H V Hodson, Mr Charles Cator, Mr Timothy Hales, Major Hugo Waterhouse, Mr Anthony Spink, Mr Evan James, Mr Gerald Ward.

Mr Michael Davies (clerk assistant, House of Lords), Mr Tim Card (Eton College), Mr Michael Wyndham (chairman, Whites) and Mr Derek Shepherd (Lords Taverners).

Mr Desmond Shawe-Taylor

A memorial service and musical celebration for the life of Mr Desmond Shawe-Taylor, Chief Music Critic of *The Sunday Times* 1958-1983, was held yesterday at St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square. The Rev Bernhard Schünemann officiated. The Earl of Harewood, Mrs Frances Partridge, Mr George Rylands, CH, and Mr Desmond P. Shawe-Taylor nephew, gave addresses.

Mr John Warrack, Mr Andrew Porter, Music Critic of *The Observer*, and Mr David Cairns, Senior Music Critic of *The Sunday Times*, introduced music by Janácek, Britten and Schubert. The performers were: Brindisi Quartet with Mr Anthony Pleeth, cello, Mr Richard Edgar-Wilson, tenor, Mr Andrew Ball, piano, and Mr Paul Stubbings, organ. Among others present were:

Mr Patrick Trevor-Roper, Mr Brian Shawe-Taylor (brother), Mr and Mrs Arland Shawe-Taylor, Dr John and Dr Meta Shawe-Taylor, Mrs D P Shawe-Taylor.

The Countess of Harewood, the Countess of Lichfield, Viscount and Viscountess Cranborne, Lord and Lady Annan, Lady Berkeley, Lord Broughshane, Lord Dacre of Glanton, the Dowager Lady Egremont, Lady Dorothy Heber-Percy, Lady Anne Hill, Lady Katharine Page, the Hon Mrs Alan Hare, the Hon Thomas and Mrs Lindsay, the Hon Mrs Fionn Morgan, the Hon Timothy and Mrs Palmer, Pauline Lady Rumbold, Lady Beckett, Sir Isaiah Berlin, OM, and Lady Berlin, Sir Charles Fletcher-Cooke QC, Sir Michael Howard, Lady Montagu-Pollock, Sir John and Lady Morgan, Sir Adam and Lady Ridley, Sir John Tooley.

Mr John Witherow (Editor, *The Sunday Times*) with Mr Ian Coxon (managing editor, Production) and Mr David Mills (managing editor, Arts and Leisure), Mr Tudor Hopkins (News International), Mr Robin Boyle (chairman, Faber Music), Mr Michael Charlesworth (Old Salopian Club), Mr Neil Dalrymple (Music International), Ms Margaret Davies (Illustrated London News Group), Professor Peter Dickinson (Goldsmiths' College), Mr and Mrs Paul Levy (*The Wall Street Journal*), Mr Malcolm Smith (Boosey and Hawkes).

Ms Janet Adam Smith, Mr Felix Aprahamian, Mr Robert Bebb, Mr Julian Berkeley, Mr and Mrs Michael Berkeley, Rear-Admiral and Mrs Christopher Bevan, Mr Richard Brain, Mr Julian Bream, Mr D H Brest, Mr Richard Buckle, Dr and Mrs Paul Byers, Miss Christine Campbell, Mr James Campbell, Mr J M Cartwright-Sharp, Mr Michael De-la-Noy, Mrs Josceline Dimbleby, Mr Peter Eyre, Mrs Xan Fielding, Mr Peter Ford, Mr Christopher Gibbs, Mr Noel Goodwin, Mr Derek Grainger, Dr Michael Henstock, Dr B D G Hill, Dr Derek Hill, Dr Anthony Hobson, Mrs J Hope-Wallace, Mr Mark James, Dr Cenydd Jones.

Mr and Mrs Charles Jukes, Mr and Mrs Robert Kee, Mr Courtney Kenny, Mr James Lees-Milne, Dr Daniel Leech-Wilkinson, Mr David Lloyd-Jones, Mr Ian Martin, Mrs M A Martin, Mr John Macleod, Miss Diana McVeagh, Mr Rodney Milnes, Mr and Mrs Andrew Murray Threipland, Mr Roger Musgrave, Mr John Nankivell, Professor Jeremy Noble, Mr Patrick O'Connor, Mr Charles Osborne, Mr Nathaniel Page, Mr Kenneth Partridge, Ms Caroline Phillips, Miss Sheila Pigott, Mr Michael Pitt-Rivers, Mr David Plant, Mr Thomas Ponsonby, Mrs Jane Pountney, Dr J A Prince.

Mr Christopher Raeburn, Mrs J Rashleigh-Belcher, Dr and Mrs B L Rathbone, Miss Cressida Ridley, Mr John Roberts, Professor Michael Rogers, Mrs E Russell, Mr and Mrs Martin Russell, Mr Tony Scotland, Miss Catharine Scudamore, Mr Montague Shaw, Ms Louise Small, Mr Godfrey Smith, Mr John Stefanidis, Mr Ivor Stewart Jones, Mr and Mrs Humphrey Stone, Mrs Janet Stone, Mr John Villiers, Mr Jochen Voigt, Major-General and Mrs Charles Vyvyan, Mr Christopher Walker, Mrs J Warrack, Mr Hugh Watkins, Mr and Mrs Michael Watkins, Mr L A Yeats, Mr Michael Yoss.

Mr Omi Abdullah, Mr Nicholas Addison, Mr and Mrs John Alexander, Mr John Allison, Dr Helen Annis, Mrs Josie Baird, Mr Michael Barner, Mrs Joan Bellerby, Mr James Bernard, Mrs Maureen Best, Mr and Mrs Alan Blyth, Mr Hugh Canning, Mr Andrew Carmichael, Mr Colin Clark, Mr Eric Coad, Miss Barbara Coombs, Mr Peter Coombs, Mr Terence Cooper, Mrs A F Coppen, Mr and Mrs Craske, Mr C E Davies, Mr William Davies, William Davis, Mr David Dougill, Mr Gerald Dougherty.

Mr and Mrs David Drew, Mr Paul Driver, Mrs Marion Edwards, Mr and Mrs Malcolm Fall, Mr Lewis Foreman, Mrs Harriet Frazer, Mr David Foston, Mr Stelios Galatopoulos, Ms Phyllida Gili, Miss Diana Gordon, Mr Kim Hall, Mr and Mrs Hugh Holley, Mrs Jenny Hughes, Mr R B Jackson, Miss Rose Jackson, Mr Michael James ap John, Mr Daniel Keats, Mrs S Loeb, Mr Kenneth Loveland, Mrs William Mann, Mrs G McNamara, Mr Herman Pasma-Chan, Mr Burnet Pavitt, Mr Matei Radev, Ms Kathleen Redwood.

Mr Michael Rubenstein, Mr Roger Schlesinger, Mrs Rosmary Sevett, Mr Geoffrey Sharp, Ms Audrey Skipper, Mr John Sleane, Mr John Stolberg, Mr Frank Tait, Mr Michael Tanner, Mr Ian Taylor, Mr Kenneth Thomson, Ms Deidre Tilly, Mr S V Vernals, Mr Robert Walls, Ms Caroline Watkins, Mr Louis Wait, Mr Philip Weller, Stuart Westwood, Mr G C Willett, Mrs Jean Wood, Ms Alexandra Wood and Mr Brian Wordsworth.

Lecture

General Dental Council

Lord Woolf delivered the Wilfred Fish lecture to the General Dental Council yesterday at 37 Wimpole Street. Dr Margaret Seward, president, accompanied by Professor Gordon Seward, presided.

Birthdays today

Lord Amery of Lustleigh, 77; Mr D.R.G. Andrews, former chairman, Land Rover-Leyland, 63; Mrs Mary Armour, artist, 94; Miss Ruth Ashton, former general-secretary, Royal College of Midwives, 57; Mr R.P. Bauman, chairman, British Aerospace, 65; Professor A.J. Bellingham, president, Royal College of Pathologists, 58; Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, former chairman, Press Council, 70; Mr Kim Brassey, racehorse trainer, 41; Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, KG, 84; Mr R.P. Cohan, choreographer, 71; Mr P. Daubeny, chief executive, Electricity Association, 58; Mr Patrick Deuchar, chief executive, Albert Hall, 47; Miss Maria Ewing, opera singer, 46; Lord Fanshawe of Richmond, 69; Mr Julian Glover, actor, 61; Sir David Hancock, civil servant, 62; Mr Ellery Hanley, rugby league player, 35; Mr Nicholas Hawkins, MP, 39; Mr Victor Hochhauser, impresario, 73; Lord Lyell, 57; Mr Patrick McCabe, novelist, 41; Mr J.G. Parker, former High Master, Manchester Grammar School, 63; Lord Plumb, MEP, 71; Mr Mstislav Rostropovich, cellist and conductor, 69; Sir Richard Sharp, civil servant, 81; Admiral Sir Jock Slater, 58; Professor Margaret Stacey, sociologist, 74; the Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire, 61; Mr Frank Taylor, Chief Constable, Durham, 63; Miss Daphne Todd, president, Royal Society of Portrait Painters, 49; Mr Cyrus Vance, KBE, former American politician, 79; Mr Michael York, actor, 54.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Michael Bruce, poet, Kinnesswood, Kinrosshire, 1746; Heinrich Mann, novelist, Lubeck, Germany, 1871; Gloria Swanson, actress, Chicago, Illinois, 1899.

DEATHS: King James VI of Scotland (from 1567) and James I of England (reigned 1603-25), Theobalds, Hertfordshire, 1625; Sir George Gilbert Scott, architect, London, 1878; Henry Adams, historian, Washington, 1918; Arnold Bennett, novelist, London, 1931; Yuri Gagarin, first cosmonaut to orbit the Earth (1961), killed in an air crash, Moscow, 1968.

The first successful blood transfusion took place in a Brussels hospital, 1914.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr E.H. Balfour and Miss V.F. Norton
The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Rear Admiral and Mrs Hugh Balfour, of Donhead St Mary, and Vanessa, daughter of Mr Barrie Norton, of Perth, Australia, and Mrs Jeffrey Jarvis, of Brisbane.

Lieutenant M.A. Colwell, RN, and Miss A.M. Fallowfield
The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of Mr Roger Colwell, of Brixton, Devon, and Mrs Christina Atwell, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, and Anneliese, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Adrian Fallowfield, of Thornford, Dorset.

Mr G. Gavigan and Miss K.E. Hughes
The engagement is announced between Gabriel, son of Mr Patrick Gavigan and the late Dr Louie Gavigan, of Aclare, County Sligo, and Kerys, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Hughes, of Wenvoe, South Glamorgan.

Mr D.P. Leverett and Miss L.V.P. Parker
The engagement is announced between David, son of the late Mr Andrew Thomas Leverett, and of Mrs Leverett, of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and Lucy, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Parker, of London, NW11.

Mr M.R. Mainelli and Miss E. Reuss
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Michael and Katherine Mainelli, and Elisabeth, daughter of Reinhold and Maria Reuss. The marriage will take place on May 18, in Pfersdorf, Germany.

Mr Z.J.B. Newman and Miss R.M. Carter
The engagement is announced between Zachary, son of Mr and Mrs Trevor Newman, of Ashford Hill, Hampshire, and Rachel, daughter of Mr Michael Carter and the late Mrs Carter, of Chorley, Lancashire.

Mr M.R. Sheldon and Miss G.V. Hazlitt
The engagement is announced between Marcus, younger son of Mr and Mrs R.S.R. Sheldon, of Perridge House, Pilton, Somerset, and Gillian, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs B.R. Hazlitt, of Cousins Farm, The Haven, West Sussex.

Mr J.L. Spence and Miss S-J. Swan
The engagement is announced between John, elder son of Mr and Mrs Keith Spence, of Harlington, Bedfordshire, and Sarah-Jane, elder daughter of Mr Paul Swan, of Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire.

Mr G.A. Worsley and Miss J.B. Pitman
The engagement is announced between Giles, younger son of Sir Marcus and the Hon Lady Worsley, of Hovingham, Yorkshire, and Joanna, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Pitman, of Pewsey, Wiltshire.

Funeral service

Dr William McNeil Styles

The funeral of Dr William McNeil Styles, OBE, FRCGP, took place on Friday, March 15, at St Nicholas's, Chiswick. The Rev Dr John Thewlis officiated and paid tribute. Sir Donald Irvine read the lesson. Mrs Soo Keyworth and Dr Stuart Carne gave addresses. Among those present were:

Members of the family, Mr N Aronsohn, Mr S Aronsohn, Dr A Bailey, Dr J Ball, Mr P Barker, Sir John Batten, Dr T Boyd, Dr J Bradley, Sir Kenneth Calman, Dr M Carmi, Dr and Mrs S Carne, Mr A Carswell, Dr J Chisholm, Dr R Clarke, Ms L Davey, Sir Gerald Delaney, Ms J Dent, Dr A Donald, Dr R Dunster, Dr G Dyker, Dr J Dymond, Dr N Frazer, Professor P Freeling, Professor G Freeman, Dr J Gilley, Professor J Grant, Professor D Harvey, Dr S Hirst, Dr J Horder, Dr R Hornung, Lady Irvine, Dr I Jamieson, Dr S Jarvis, Dr D Kerr, Dr I Koppel, Mr A Langlands, Dr J Lee, Dr P Leech, Mr J Lipetz, Professor M Marinker.

Dr J Marks, Mr B Martin, Dr R Maxwell, Dr M McBride, Dr D Murfin, Dr F Navey, Dr L Newman, Dr J Noakes, Dr B Ogden, Dr A Orme-Smith, Dr R Palmer, Dr G Panting, Mr D Parry, Professor and Mrs D Pereira Gray, Professor P Pietroni, Dr R Pietroni, Dr B Reith, Dr M Rhodes, Dr G Roberts, Dr J Rodger, Dr E Shaoul, Dr T Silver, Dr B K Sinha, Dr Y Smith, Dr D S Stableforth, Dr P J Stableforth, Ms J Stern, Ms C Stewart-Munro, Ms H Sturridge, Dr B Sweeney, Mrs J Thewlis, Dr J Toby, Dr W Ward, Dr D Wingfield, representatives of the RCGP, staff and patients of the Grove Health Centre and friends and colleagues.

PERSONAL

I shall guide you in the paths of wisdom: I shall lead you in honest ways.
Proverbs 4 : 11 (REB)

BIRTHS

ASHWORTH-KWASNIK - On 12th March 1996, to Fiona and Sefton, a beloved daughter, Georgina Rosie Esther.

BHAT - On 26th March 1996, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Heather (née Maughan) and Ashok, a beautiful son, Theodore Albert Vaman, a brother for Alexander and Freddie.

BUSSEY - On 21st March in Canberra, Australia, to Sarah (née Porter) and Stephen, a daughter, Grace Alexandra, a beautiful sister for Alice Victoria.

DAVIES - On 22nd March, to Louise (née Hendry) and Andrew, a daughter, Katherine Frances.

DUCKER - On March 20th, to Sally (née Hucker) and Karl, a son, Thomas Joseph, a brother for Eleanor.

GROSS - On March 20th at The Portland Hospital, to Theresa and Todd Gross, a beautiful daughter, Emily Ann, a sister for Melanie and Danielle.

HAMMOND - Brian Hammond and Debbie Lucas are delighted to announce the birth of Jessica Emily on Monday 25th March at Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital.

JENKINS - On March 23rd at Ospedale Santa Maria Goretti, Latina, Italy, to Amanda (née Raymer) and Chris, a daughter, Elizabeth Henrietta.

KAYE - On March 19th, to Nicola (née Hulbert) and Matthew, a son, James.

KINAHAN - On March 25th, to Anna and Danny, a son, Hugo Robin Alexander, a brother for Eliza and Tara.

PREVITE - On March 22nd at The Portland Hospital, to Antonia (née Hamilton Davis) and Andrew, a son, Bertie, a brother for Teddy.

WALLACE - On 25th March, to Susie (née Black) and John, a daughter, Sophia Blanche Lamond, sister to Helena and Freya.

DEATHS

ATKINSON - On March 24th 1996, peacefully, Elizabeth Hewitt (Betty) of Ditchling, Sussex. Widow of Jack, mother of Pat, Ted and Mary and grandmother of Elizabeth, Jonathan, Jack and Virginia. A private cremation will be followed by a Service of Thanksgiving. This will be held at St Margaret's Church, Ditchling and all friends would be most welcome. Please contact R.A. Brooks & Son, tel: (01444) 454391 for details. Family flowers only, but donations would be appreciated for Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o R.A. Brooks & Son, 36 Wivelsfield Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex.

BATTEY - Auckland, New Zealand, Dr. Maurice Hugh Battey, Geologist, formerly of University of Newcastle upon Tyne, on March 26th 1996 aged 74 years, much loved husband of Pam, father of Nicholas and of the late Christopher, father-in-law of Catherine and grandfather of Matthew, Emily, Henry and Edmund.

BUXTON - Daphne Rosemary (Iva) (née Munro). On March 23rd, aged 78. Widow of Lt. Col. E.N. Buxton. Dearly loved stepmother, step-grandmother and step-great-grandmother. There will be a private cremation and then at 2 pm on 27th April 1996 a service of thanksgiving for her life at St Mary's Church, Rushall, nr. Diss, Norfolk. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Royal British Legion or the RSPB.

DALE - Leonard Ernest peacefully on 17th March 1996 aged 83. Much loved and admired by all the family. One time Under Secretary in the Ministry of Transport Chair of Nasha. Funeral at All Saints Parish Church, Wouldham, Kent, 2.30 pm Tuesday 2nd April 1996. All friends welcome. Flowers to W. Naylar & Son, 90-92 Delce Road, Rochester, ME1 2DH, tel: (01634) 843143.

DICKINSON - John Roscoe F.R.C.S. F.R.C.O.G. died at home after a long illness on 25th March, husband of Barbara and father to Joe, Richard, Liz and David. Service at Trull Church, Taunton, on Monday 1st April at noon. Family flowers only please.

GAMMELL - William on March 23rd 1996 peacefully at home, widower of Mary Gammell and father of Marion, William, Racina and Russell, grandfather and great-grandfather. Will be much missed. Funeral at St Edward's Catholic Church, Golders Green, on Thursday 28th March 1996 at 12 noon.

GILMORE - On March 24th Norman aged 79. Priest. Much loved husband of Barbara, father of Patrick, Margaret, Christopher and Katharine and devoted grandfather of James and Claire. Funeral on Tuesday April 2nd at 1 pm at St Peter and St Paul, Rustington. Donations instead of flowers to Zululand and Swaziland Association c/o H.D. Tribe Ltd., 63 Sea Lane, Rustington, W. Sussex, (01903) 787188.

GREEN - On March 24th 1996 after a long illness borne with great courage and vitality Christopher William Curtis (Bill). Wonderful husband to Chris, much loved father to Michael, Annabel, Caroline and Sarah and a loving Bumpy to Lucy, Nelly and Elise. Funeral Service and Thanksgiving on Monday April 1st at St Michael's Church, Framlingham, Suffolk at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please. Donations to The Jack Prior Unit, Norfolk and Norwich Health Care Trust, Brunswick Road, Norwich NR1 3SR.

JANCEY - On March 23rd, after a long illness, Meryl of Sutton St Nicholas, Hereford. Funeral Service at Sutton St Nicholas Parish Church on Friday 29th March at 11 am, followed by cremation. Flowers or donations to Sutton St Nicholas Church and Marie Curie Cancer Care may be sent to Bayley Brothers (Hereford) Ltd., Cotterell Street, Hereford.

LABOUCHERE - Suddenly on March 22nd, Rachel Katharine of Dudmaston, Shropshire, aged 87. Beloved wife of Sir George Labouchere G.B.E., K.C.M.G. Private family funeral and no memorial service at her own request. Also at her request, no letters or flowers please, but donations in aid of St Andrew's Church Quatt may be sent to P. Haycox and Son, Funeral Directors, Stourbridge Road, Wootton, nr Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV15 6EE. Tel: (01746) 780438.

LUSTY - On 24th March John Peel, son of Adrienne and the late Jack Lusty. A wonderful and devoted husband to Jennifer, dear father to Nicola, Sam, Joanna and Patrick and grandfather to Rosanna, Charles, Elizabeth, Charlotte and Thomas. A devastating loss. A service will be held at St Mary's Church Send, at 2.30 pm on April 1st. Enquiries to 01483 772266.

MINUGH - On 26th March peacefully at home in Bermuda "Skip", adored husband of Lizzie and much loved brother, son-in-law, brother-in-law and uncle. He will be sadly missed by many. Friends may wish to make a donation to Imperial Cancer Research, London Appeal Centre, Dept. NFD, 61 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2.

MOLINARI - Nellie, died peacefully 24th March aged 93. Beloved wife of the late Antonio and sister of Sonny. Funeral Wednesday 3rd April 9.45 am at St Dunstan's R.C. Church, followed by interment in St Pancras Cemetery. Flowers to G. Smith Funeral Directors, 7 The Green, Wooburn Green, Bucks. HP10 0EE.

MORTON - The Revd. Arthur Morton C.V.O., O.B.E., M.A. on March 26th peacefully in Solent Cliffs Nursing Home, Hill Head, Fareham, Hants. Beloved father of Heather and Audrey, grandfather of Robert. Funeral at Crofton Old Church, Titchfield Road, Stubbington on Friday March 29th at 10.45 am, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the Parkinson's Disease Society or N.S.P.C.C. c/o A.H. Freemantle Funeral Directors, 46 South Street, Titchfield, PO14 4DY.

NURSE - Tragically, on March 19th, Mark Henry, aged 24. Beloved son of Judith and Peter, brother of Nicola and Peter Charles, grandson of Barbara Harper. Funeral at St Mary's Church, Kemsing on Wednesday, April 3rd at 2 pm. No flowers, donations, if desired, to MIND, c/o Welham Jones, 156 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent. TN13 1DJ. Tel: (01732) 742400.

QUINN - Edward Vincent M.A. of Woodstock and Balliol College, died peacefully on 22nd March 1996, aged 79 years. A dear uncle, friend and colleague. Cremation at Oxford Crematorium at 11.45 am on Friday 29th March, followed by a Thanksgiving Requiem at St Hugh of Lincoln Church, Woodstock at 12.30pm. Family flowers only, donations preferred please for St Lukes Hospital, c/o Reeves and Pain, 288 Abingdon Road, Oxford.

SNAGGE - John Derrick Mordaunt aged 91 years died peacefully on 25th March at Thameside Nuffield Hospital. Funeral Service at Stoke Poges Church Wednesday 3rd April at 2 pm. Family flowers or donations if desired to The Lord's Taverners.

TYRRELL - James died suddenly in New York on March 20th 1996 aged 27 years. The funeral service will be held in Stowe Church, Buckinghamshire, on Friday March 29th 1996 at 2 pm, followed by committal in Northampton Crematorium. Flowers if desired to R.J. Tyrrell Funeral Service, Bicester, Oxon., tel: (01869) 252888.

VERNON - Mary, beloved wife of William Bradney, died peacefully on 25th March. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to Arthritis Research.

WILLISON - Lady Jean Morris, dearly loved wife of Sandy, peacefully on March 25th. Funeral at Worcester Crematorium on Tuesday April 2nd at 11 am. No flowers.

WOOD - Josephine (Jo) née Perkin, on Monday 25th March, after a long and determined struggle against cancer. Funeral at East Dean on Friday, at 2 pm. Donations to Cancer Research. Posies only to Hollands of Chichester.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

MELVILLE - A Service in Remembrance of Joan Melville will be held at All Saints' Creeksea on Friday 19th April at 2.30 pm.

STEPHENS - Sir Robert. A celebration for the life and work of Sir Robert will be held on Monday 29th April 1996 at 11.30 am at St James's Church, 197 Piccadilly, London W1.

IN MEMORIAM – WAR

HMS DASHER - In proud and loving memory of Maurice James Barrister, Sub Lieut (A) RNVR and of the other 378 aircrew and ships company of HMS Dasher who perished on 27th March 1945. We shall not forget them.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

HUNTER - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Patrick Grogan Hunter will be held at Stowe School on Saturday 20th April 1996 at 12 noon.

FLATSHARE

BELGRAVIA Penthouse, single executive share, fully staffed, antique furnishings. £300-400pw Tel:0171 289 2075 eve.

CHISWICK Prof share lux flat, all mod cons. Dbl rm. nr tube. £90 pw exc. 0181 741 9477.

CLAPHAM Dble rm in super hse. very nr tube, all mod cons, gdn, etc. Great atmosphere. £340 pcm. David 0171 7205000

FLATMATES London's foremost (Est 1970) Professional flat sharing service. 0171-589 5491

SW10 Female late 30's n/s. own double room in 2 bed flat. £400 pcm. Tel: 0171 387 4895.

SW7 1. m/f prof to share 3 dbl rm lux flat 5 mins Glos Rd tube. all amenities, £115pw. Non inc bills. Tel Simon 0171 334 1800(w) 0171 373 8706(h).

SITUATIONS WANTED

ATTRACTIVE intelligent reliable out of work actress seeks employment - technophobic but great with animals, children and people. Box No 4717

TICKETS FOR SALE

TICKETS FOR SALE
When responding to advertisements readers are advised to establish the face value and full details of tickets before entering into any commitment. Most sports tickets are subject to strict re-sale and transfer rules.

ABACUS TICKETS
V I P Service
Wimbledon
Euro 96 Football,
Phantom, Absolutely all
Pop, Sport & Theatre.
Tel: 0181 673 2944
All major cc's accepted

TICKETS
(Bought & Sold)
Wimbledon 96
Royal Ascot
Phantom, Oliver, Saigon,
Oasis, 3 Tenors, Eagles,
T. Turner, B. Springsteen
Neil Diamond, Bon Jovi
Any Ticket obtained.
0171 488-4414

TICKETS
EAGLES, OASIS,
TINA TURNER, BON JOVI
BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN
NEIL DIAMOND
HEATHCLIFF, TOMMY
PHANTOM, SUNSET
WIMBLEDON 96'
PILKINGTON CUP
RUGBY LEAGUE
CHALLENGE CUP
ROYAL ASCOT
ALL POP, THEATRE &
SPORTING EVENTS
TEL: 0171 323 4490
CR Portland Associates

ALL TICKETS
Wimbledon 96'
R. Ascot, Grand Prix, Oasis,
Springsteen, Eagles,
Heathcliff, Phantom, Sunset
etc. All Theatre, Pop & Sport
We obtain the unobtainable
0171 403 9555
All CC's, Free Delivery

TICKETS FOR SALE

ACCESS TICKETS Specialists in Sold Out Events All theatre pop concerts & sporting events bought & sold. Call Now on 0171 821 6616 F: 828 2807

ALL AVAIL: Phantom, all theatre, Eagles, B. Springsteen, B Adams, all sport 0171 480 6183

ALL TICKETS Phantom, cricket, Wimbledon, B Springsteen, Oasis, Eagles, T Turner. All major pop, sport & theatre. CC's accpt. 0171 925 0085

ALL TICKETS Oasis, Springsteen etc. Phantom, Les Mis etc. Ascot, Cricket & more 0171 930 3895 F: 3894

FOR SALE

FOR SALE One Royal program from the Queens Coronation 1952. Excellent condition. Please contact by mail. Serious Offers and Enquiries only to Douglas Schuster, PO Box 33061, Whitehorse Yukon, Canada Y1A 5Y5.

THE TIMES - 1791-1995 other titles available. Ready for presentation - also "Sundays". Remember When. 0181-688 6323.

MIDWEEK RENDEZVOUS

PLUMP PARTNERS National Dating Agency. If you are plump or prefer a plump partner ring 01582 718909.

WANTED

PRE 1940's clothes, linen, lace, fans, patchwork, quilts, embroideries, paisley shawls etc wanted 0171 229 9618.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

JOIN IN THE EASTER PARADE AT MARKSONS!
"We're late, we're late for a very important date" cried the Easter Bunnies. We are invited to tea by the Mad Hatter and Alice at the Markson Piano showroom. Choose from 100's of new & secondhand Upright, Grand & Digital pianos. You can even hire one from only £20 per month with an option to buy later.
Now that sounds like a perfect recipe for any Easter party!
MARKSON PIANOS
Established 1910
0171 935 8682 (NW1)
0181 854 4517 (SE18)

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

PORTUGAL & Canaries. All areas. Villas/apts., hotels, pousadas, golf hols, flights. Longmere Int'l. 0181 684 2424. Retail agents. ABTA E143X

UK HOLIDAYS

CENTRAL London. Superior serviced apartments. Tel:0181 451 3094 / Fax 0181 459 4422

WINTER SPORTS

CHALET Bargains in our French, Austrian/Swiss resorts. Ski Total 0181 9486922 Abta/Atol

WEEKEND Skiing. Depart any day for any number of days. White Roc Ski 0171 792 1188

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

COSTCUTTERS on flights & hols to Europe, USA & most destinations. Diplomat Travel Services Ltd: 0171-730 2201. ABTA 26705 IATA/ATOL 1355.

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

GERMANY Daily low cost flights. 0181 429 2900. Visa/Access. ABTA 90685. ATOL.

CAPITAL FLIGHTS

Portugal	59	USA	129
Spain	59	Canada	179
Canaries	59	Caribbean	189
Ski Flights	39	Africa	295
Greece	69	Far East	320
Cyprus	89	S.America	340
Israel	99	Australia	450

ALL EUROPEAN & WORLDWIDE DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE
Retail Agent
0171 289 4000 E8580

FLIGHTS

ALICANTE	£59	FARO	£89
PALMA	£59	CYPRUS	£120
CANARIES	£99	MAHON	£79
GREECE	£99	MALAGA	£69
MALTA	£99	AUSTRALIA	£399
ISRAEL	£135	ORLANDO	£199
TURKEY	£99	USA	£169

All European & Worldwide Dest Available
VICEROY AIR INTERNATIONAL
Retail Agent
01476 74111

TRAILFINDERS
Low cost flights worldwide
AND UP TO 65% DISCOUNT ON HOTELS & CAR RENTAL
Call Trailfinders for the complete tailor-made travel service
LONDON Longhaul: 0171-938 3366
Transatlantic & European: 0171-937 5400
First & Business Class: 0171-938 3444
BIRMINGHAM Worldwide: 0121-236 1234
BRISTOL Worldwide: 0117-929 9000
GLASGOW Worldwide: 0141-353 2224
MANCHESTER Worldwide: 0161-839 6969
First & Business Class: 0161-839 3434

GIFTS

A BIRTHDATE Newspaper. Original. Superbly presented. Freephone 0800 906609

OVERSEAS EXPRESS - low cost flights, Germany, East Europe, Africa, Mid East, Indian Sub, Far East, South America. Club/First 0171 724 2255 & 0161 832 3167 IATA/ATOL 3662.

The ideal gift
A leather-bound customised book with 65 leaves compiled around your chosen day and year to bring back the flavour of the time.
Available any date from 1 Jan 1901.
Call 01732 464943 for a colour brochure
BIRTHDAYS ANNIVERSARIES
£49.95

OBITUARIES

SENATOR EDMUND MUSKIE

Senator Edmund Muskie, US *Secretary of State, 1980-81, and* Senator from Maine, 1959-80, died yesterday aged 81. He was born on March 28, 1914.

IT WAS Ed Muskie's misfortune to be most widely remembered for an incident that really counted for very little, given the general range of his career. In March 1972, while campaigning for the Democratic nomination in New Hampshire, he broke down in tears while referring to scandalous stories that had surfaced about his wife's alleged drinking.

The vision of a supposedly strong man weeping was sufficient to wreck his hopes of securing his party's nomination — just the result the Nixon White House "dirty tricks" department had counted on in planting the stories in the first place. But, in reality, Muskie had lost little. Richard Nixon never needed Watergate or any of its associated activities in order to win that election. By getting knocked out of the contest long before even his party's own convention Muskie simply saved himself the martyr's crown that eventually landed on the brow of George McGovern who, in November 1972, went down to one of the most ignominious defeats in the history of American politics.

Ed Muskie first emerged as a major figure in US politics as Hubert Humphrey's vice-presidential candidate in 1968. That, too, was hardly an enviable inheritance. After the confusion, chaos and internecine fighting which disfigured that year's Chicago convention — and the awkward, ambivalent relationship of the party's standard-bearer to the outgoing President, Lyndon Johnson — no one gave much for the Democratic ticket's chances.

But in the campaign Muskie succeeded in making a perceptible personal hit. He dominated the radical student crowds, while also impressing the average American voter with his calm, his immense height, his honesty and his carefully publicised Polish origins. His freedom from the vulgarity which American commentators detected in the other political candidates (including his own running-mate) made him the clear favourite of the American press.

The only curious aspect was that anyone should have been surprised at such an outcome. His record as a vote-winner was, after all, there for all to see. Single-handed he had captured and held the traditionally Republican state of Maine — "As Maine goes, so goes Vermont" was the wag's joke at the time of the Roosevelt 1936 landslide — in the Democratic column, first as Governor in 1954, then as Senator four years later. His rise in the Senate had been as steady, as unflashy and as solidly based as his rise in Maine politics.

In the confusion which followed Richard Nixon's narrow victory in the 1968 election he thus seemed the natural candidate for the Democratic nomination in 1972. For some time that appearance was borne out by the opinion polls which made him by far the strongest figure among the potential Democratic candidates, excepting only Senator Edward Kennedy.

But, even before his crying in the snow, actual experience on the hustings had revealed how unreliable such polls can be. He proved both physically and temperamentally unsuited to the constant public exposure of the campaign. His initial successes were distinctly underwhelming — and long before (as he always claimed) the snowflakes got into his eyes in New Hampshire, he must have privately recognised that he was not cast by nature for the role of heading a national ticket.

It was probably, indeed, his rueful acknowledgement of this defect in his make-up as a politician which caused him barely to hesitate when in April 1980 he was offered an alternative opportunity of executive service by becoming President Carter's Secretary of State. Again, however, the circumstances were hardly propitious. His predecessor at the State Department, Cyrus Vance, had just resigned in protest against the failure of the White House to consult him over the ill-fated desert raid (designed to rescue the US Iranian hostages); and, although Muskie asked for, and got, assurances that he would be allowed to be his own man — and not a just a front-of-house manager for Carter's National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski — he must have foreseen that the chances were that he would play only a limited and lame-duck season at Foggy Bottom.

The only thing, in fact, that could have made sense of the appointment — and, indeed, justified the sacrifice of Muskie's Senate seat (which went to his former executive assistant, George Mitchell) — would have been if Jimmy Carter had gone on to secure a second term. But this was not something that was under Carter's control, still less Muskie's. If anyone, indeed, was calling the shots, it was Ayatollah Khomeini in Tehran who eventually decided to release the 52 American hostages on the very day Ronald Reagan was inaugurated (and only after he had taken the oath, while Muskie still sat vainly waiting for news in the State Department). His nine-month period as the senior Cabinet officer of the United States may have provided an honourable postscript to Muskie's public career: but it hardly supplied it with an upbeat ending.

Edmund Sixtus Muskie was born in Rumford, Maine, the son of a Polish immigrant tailor who anglicised his name from Marciszewski. His career was a classic example of the poor immigrant's son who makes good. Educated in the public high schools and at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, he graduated *cum laude* in 1936, won a scholarship to Cornell Law School where he again graduated *cum laude* in 1939, being admitted to practise at the Massachusetts Bar that same year and in Maine the year after.

With America's entry into the war he enlisted in the US Navy and served as an engineering officer in both the Atlantic and Pacific theatres. In 1946 he returned to practise law in Waterville, Maine, and in 1948 he was elected to the state legislature as a member of the then small and powerless Maine Democratic Party. In so small a group he came very quickly to the fore, serving as floor leader for the Democratic Party from 1950 to 1954 when the rising tide of opposition to the rock-ribbed conservatism of the Maine Republican Party swept him into office as the first Democratic Governor of Maine in the history of the state. He made it his job to attract investment to the state, and rapidly became its most popular personality, being easily re-elected in 1956. In 1958 he successfully challenged the Republican incumbent for his state's second Senate seat.

In his 22 years in the Senate, Muskie earned a reputation second to none for his thoroughness and competence. Even though he eventually became chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, he made his greatest impact as chairman of the Air and Water Pollution sub-committee long before ecology became the fad of Left and Centre alike, earning the nickname of "Mr Clean". In 1965 he wrote the Water Quality Act, establishing the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, and in 1967 he drafted legislation establishing regional clean air standards. His biggest success came in 1966 when his speech on the model cities programme secured a 53-22 majority in the Senate for a measure all had assumed certain to be defeated.

In general his voting record managed to secure the wholehearted approval of the traditional liberal organisations, Americans for Democratic Action and the AFL/CIO Committee on Political Education, while his cautious ruminative personality, his professional competence and his care for the interests of Maine industry maintained for him the support and respect of Middle America. There he was always recognised as a man who lived and worked by the ideals of honesty, hard work and independence, traditional to small-town society in America. It was the increasing public recognition of these qualities, highlighted by his deliberate rebuke of President Nixon's attempt in the 1970 mid-term elections to link his Democratic opponents with the radical lunatic fringe, which made him, however briefly, the 1972 front-runner for the Democratic nomination.

But he was never perhaps quite the straightforward character that even his backers took him to be. His personality was as complex as its political manifestations were simple. Beneath the courtesy and gentleness, for which he was famous, lurked a legendary volcanic temper. He drove his staff as hard as he drove himself. He was ill-at-ease with small-talk, absorbed by big issues and bored by frivolous, fussy details. He believed in frankness even when it might damage his cause, as in his famous rejection of the notion of having a black candidate for the vice-presidency, or in his comments on the failure of American liberalism to achieve any fundamental changes in American society since the New Deal.

In 1948 he married Jane F. Gray. She survives him, together with their two sons and three daughters.

JOHN PAFFORD

John Pafford, Goldsmiths' Librarian of the University of London, 1945-67, died on March 11 aged 96. He was born in Bradford-on-Avon on March 6, 1900.

LIBRARIANS, particularly university librarians, have for decades had to tackle the problem of organising collections for research in the face of vastly increased numbers of publications and students. Jack Pafford became embroiled in this logistical problem early on in his career and, despite showing an aptitude for academic scholarship, remained at the forefront of the science of librarianship throughout his long life.

It could be said of him, as Pafford wrote of H. S. Foxwell — who had collected the Goldsmiths' Library of Economic Literature in the late 19th century — that he cared for books "as things", and loved handling them: "but much more than this, he was deeply concerned with cataloguing and arranging his library."

Born with the century, John Henry Pyle Pafford was educated at Trowbridge High School, where he shone as both scholar and sportsman. He enlisted in 1918 in the Inns of Court OTC, and was commissioned into The Wiltshire Regiment, but because of his poor hearing he was never sent to the trenches.

On demobilisation, he began his long association with the University of London and University College. Reading English under W. P. Ker and R. W. Chambers, he repaid his debt to both by his later bibliography of Ker and his work on the Arden edition of *The Winter's Tale*, for which he was awarded a doctorate.

He turned aside from his first choice of an academic literary career and, after an assistantship in University College Library, became Librarian and tutor at Selly Oak Colleges in Birmingham. The award of a travelling scholarship to Europe enabled him to begin his series of investigations into librarianship abroad, an experience which led to his lasting commitment to inter-library co-operation — then still a struggling infant in most countries. *Library Co-operation in Europe* (1935), a dense but eminently useful book for librarians, emerged from his wanderings. In 1931 he was made sub-librarian at the National Central Library in London.

During the Second World War, Pafford was again denied active service because of his hearing. But he played an important role in setting up Army libraries and in the Army Education Scheme described in his pamphlet, *Books and Army Education* (1946).

Appointed Goldsmiths' Librarian in the University of London in 1945, Pafford set about re-establishing the library on its return from evacuation. Under his direction it became one of the finest in a university with many fine collections. Pafford planned the published catalogue of the great Goldsmiths' Library of Economic Literature, and contributed the historical introduction to the first volume.

The many other special collections added during his librarianship are recorded in the tribute presented to him by the library staff on his 90th birthday. He brought in Sir Louis Sterling's remarkable collection of first editions with a grant to build appropriate accommodation, and persuaded individuals and societies to donate whole libraries, notably those for music, maps, and London.

He encouraged subject specialisation among the staff, with similar book groupings. The Open Lending Library, and the Depository Library at Egham were among results of his visit in 1947 to America and Canada. His use of the Bibliographic Classification of H. E. Bliss was a pioneering example to university librarians.

His appointment as library adviser to the Inter-Universities Council on Higher Education Overseas gave him the chance not only to give guidance to many new universities and their librarians, but also to add to the growing strengths of the University of London Library in the literature and history of other countries, notably of the Americas. The Elliot-Phelips library of Latin Americana, and the gift of the American Library from the United States Information Service, have been enhanced by the requent acquisition of the library of the Canadian High Commission.

To his staff Pafford was approachable, compassionate, often humorous; among friends and colleagues he inspired affection and admiration, and his advice, diffidently proffered, was never sought in vain. Despite working in London most of his professional life, he remained recognisably a Wiltshire man, never losing his native burr, and contributing on occasion nuggets of history to local magazines, from *Spas and mineral waters* to *A medieval horseshoe* and *Hare shooting with a .22*. In 1993, at the age of 93, he completed his last book, *John Clavell, 1601-43: highwayman, author, lawyer, doctor.*

In 1941 he married his wife Betty. She survives him, together with one of their two daughters.

JOHN SNAGGE

John Snagge, OBE, broadcaster, died on March 25 aged 91. He was born on May 8, 1904.

JOHN SNAGGE was one of the best-known of those announcers and commentators who rose to prominence on BBC radio before and during the Second World War. At the time of his retirement in 1965 his voice — not least through the Varsity Boat Race and his much imitated intonation of "In . . . out . . . in . . . out" — had been a familiar one to listeners for nearly forty years. He was Director of Presentation throughout the war years, and Head of Presentation (sound) until 1963.

John Derrick Mordaunt Snagge, eldest son of Sir Mordaunt Snagge, a County Court judge, was educated at Winchester and Pembroke College, Oxford. In 1924 he was appointed assistant at the Stoke-on-Trent relay station of the British Broadcasting Company (as it then was), at a time when "the wireless" was regarded as no more than a passing craze.

In 1928, when the company had given place to the Chartered Corporation, its Director-General, John Reith, brought him to London as an "announcer". Reith, intent on giving authority to a still struggling institution, was already investing this role with a formality that was to become part of the BBC legend. Snagge, a stalwart man of strong presence, fell without affectation within the conventions of the time — including the wearing of a dinner jacket for evening bulletins. His individuality lay in a certain robust directness in addressing the microphone, of which Reith may not at first altogether have approved. Nevertheless, allied to a ready mind and an appetite for technicalities, it added to his authority for the big occasion.

He was also at home in sport. In 1931 he gave his first running commentary on the *Oxford v Cambridge Boat Race*, an event he was to make his own. He had become deputy head of Outside Broadcasting before, in 1939, he was promoted Director of Presentation, at a moment when the reliability of the BBC programme schedules, taken for granted in peace, was about to become a buttress of national morale in war. Snagge and his staff bore a large share of responsibility for continuity in the studio; as they did also for coping with wartime hazards, including those of instant improvisation under air attack.

In those days, with the nation's very existence threatened, the voices of the newsreaders — unhurried, articulate and unfailingly on time — were awaited with an expectancy, and listened to with an attention which is hardly imaginable to later generations. Snagge would be heard at critical junctures. As link-man in London, he launched the famous series *War Report* at the time of the Normandy landings in 1944. That same year he was appointed OBE.

In the ensuing peace a voice so associated with tidings of war bore something of the burden of a receding past. But he was the natural choice to give the sound commentary on the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. In 1955 more people were still listening to his radio commentary on the Boat Race than watched it on television.

It was this event that kept him before the wider public in his latter years. His coverage was extended to its fiftieth anniversary in 1980, not only in recognition of his unmatched experience and expertise, but also because he had in some way become inseparable from it in the minds of many without specialised interest in rowing. His style, if it bore echoes of an age that was passing, did so without affectation or pretension. A rowing man himself, he still gave more information about what was going on in the boats than the public often gets. But it was his humanity, unimpaired to the last, that related him to the ordinary listener. Even his verbal mishaps, inseparable from live transmission, were relished by one and all, including himself.

After his retirement in 1965 Snagge did much freelance work, often for charity. He was a founder, and several times chairman, of the Lords Taverners. In 1972 he collaborated with Michael Barsley in the publication of *Those Vintage Years of Radio*, a lively account of earlier days.

In 1936 he married Eileen, daughter of H. P. Joscelyne, who died in 1980. He subsequently married Joan Wilson, a former BBC colleague, who died in 1992. He had no children and is survived by a brother.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA

ON THIS DAY

March 27, 1865

The Royal Italian Opera [now the Royal Opera House] could regularly present 10 operas in a season as well as having "some 25 works . . . available at a moment's notice".

M Gyo's programme for 1865 is extremely inviting. The details in full having already been published in our advertising columns, a very few comments may suffice before the opening of the theatre, which is announced to take place tomorrow with *Faust e Margherita.*

Mr Gyo dwells with accountable emphasis on the fact that the late Meyerbeur's eagerly expected grand opera, *l'Africaine* will now at length be brought out at his establishment. Meyerbeur's predilection for the work, and his anxiety about the means to be obtained for its adequate performance, are generally known; and, indeed, it is the belief of many that his exertions in that direction, during his last visit to Paris, aggravated the malady which had been his enemy for many years and eventually hastened his death . . . Happily there is one of scarcely less promise. We allude to the revival of Mozart's *Il Flauto Magico*, after a repose of 14 years. About the "cast" of the *Africaine* — which includes the names of Mdlle. Paulino Lucca, Madame Carvalho, Horren Wachtel and Schmid, Signori Graziani, Neri Baraldi, and Attri — we can of course offer no opinion, being unacquainted with the peculiar exigencies of the music; but for the effective distribution of characters in Mozart's imaginative work we think we may safely vouch . . . The Sarastro of Herr Schmid a Teuton *pur sang*, with a magnificent bass — may fairly be expected to rival that of Herr Formes: while Herr Wachtel — another Teuton *pur sang* — ought to be intimately versed in the traditions of Pamino . . . We shall love, it is true, the "O care imagine" of Signor Mario; but in revenge we are promised that the still most graceful, dramatic, and eloquent of stage tenors will undertake the part of Era Diavolo, in the Italian version of that most genial and delightful of French comic operas . . . But there is still a fourth in contemplation — nay, actually promised. We mean the revival of the greatest of all comic operas Mozart's incomparable *Le Nozze di Figaro*. Here again we find the distribution of the *dramatis personae* unusually efficient. Adolin's *l'atti* brings a new argument in vindication of her oft proved versatility in the assumption of Susanna; the more sentimental and stately embodiment for the Countess Almamira devolves upon Madame Oarvalho; Cherubino falls to Mdlle. Lucca. Among other operas proposed is *L'Étoile du Nord*, with what cast we are unable to gather. Next comes *Linda di Chamounix*. Then, the not unfamiliar *Norma* will introduce to an English audience a soprano with whose praises the Continent has long been ringing. Maddle. Lagrua having seceded, it was incumbent on Mr. Gyo either to re-enage Madame Grisi, or to find another lyric *tragodisu* . . . The *Huguenots* and *Guillaume Tell* are naturally announced. *Lucrezia Borgia* — with Mdlle. Galetti as Lucrezia, Mddle. do Ahna (from Berlin, another fresh acquisition) as Maffeo Orsini, and Signor Saccomanno (from Milan — yet another) as the Duke — follows in due course: but these with *Un Ballo in Maschera*, may speak for themselves. *Le Prophète*, however, is to be rendered freshly attractive by the appearance of Mddle. Fillipine de Edelsberg . . .

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

EMBASSY FLIGHT CENTRE
"fares from"
Athens [illegible] Orlando £149
New York [illegible] Malaga [illegible]
Canaries [illegible] Malta [illegible]
Cairo [illegible] Nice [illegible]
Sydney [illegible] Palma [illegible]
Faro [illegible] Toronto [illegible]
Goa [illegible] Tel Aviv £140
ALL WORLDWIDE & EUROPEAN DEST AVAILABLE AT DISCOUNT RATE
ABTA [illegible]
RETAIL AGENT
Tel: 01273 700737

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COUNTRY HOUSES Association has apartments for retired people. For information write to CHA (L90), Freepost, London, WC2B 6BR.

JOHN BOO-Tam. Application successful, we're coping brilliantly, please contact us or Kevin. Love you lots, God Bless. C.J.J.J.

The Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund For Children

The young people to whom we give practical help have the will to live and many of them do! By remembering the Fund in your Will you will enable us to expand our work. For further information please contact us on 0171 937 4405 or write to 14 Abingdon Road London W8 6AF.

Registered Charity No. 256435

Church Army

Sharing Faith Through Words and Action

Donations and legacies are urgently needed to enable us to continue our Christian Outreach amongst the homeless and older people — through Church Planting — working with young people and initiating area evangelism

Details from Captain Gordon Kitney, Church Army, Independents Rd, London SE3 9LG
Tel: 0181 318 1226 Fax: 0181 318 5258

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOHN MEYER Phone MJM about Rugby Club Dinner Dance.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Lowther, Jean; 25 Western Lane, Winslow, Bucks formely of 2 Topping Court, Locking Stumps, Warrington Cheshire; died 8th November 1995 particulars of any creditors to Messrs Robert Davies & Co. P.O. Box 1, 21 Bold Street, Warrington, Cheshire. Ref EJS before 21st May 1996.

LEGAL NOTICES

MATRIX MANAGEMENT SUPPORT LIMITED (In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that we, Christopher Guy Adams, 15 Cavendish Square, London W1M 9DA and Brian Reginald Anthony Callaghan, Chantrey Vellacott, Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London WC1B 5LF were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above named Company by the Creditors on 20th March 1996
C G ADAMS & B R A CALLAGHAN, Joint Liquidators.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
LOALAND WINDOWS AND JOINERY LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that A MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 17 April 1996 at 4 CHARTERHOUSE SQUARE, LONDON EC1M 6EN AT 3.00 pm for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington FIPA of 4, Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98 (2) (a) of the said Act who will furnish creditors free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
DATED this 19th day of March 1996.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
DIRECTOR ROY F. SAVAGE.

LEGAL NOTICES

TACKVILLE LIMITED (IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, S.D. Swaden, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co. PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 20th March 1996. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
DATED THIS 20th March 1996.
S.D. Swaden, FCA, Liquidator.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
DE MORGAN GROUP PLC
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Buchler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF on 9 April 1996 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act. A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be be available for inspection free of charge at Buchler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF between 10.a.m. and 4.00p.m. on 4 April 1996. Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge a full statement of account and an informal proof of debt and unless attending in person a proxy at Buchler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF no later that 12.00 noon on 4 April 1996. Secured Creditors must, unless they surrender their security, give particulars of their security and its assessed value if they wish to vote at the Meeting.
Dated 18th March 1996.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
A.C. de Morgan, DIRECTOR.

ELM JEWELLERS LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD on Wednesday 3rd April 1996 at 12.00 Noon, for the purposes mentioned in Section 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2) (a) of the Act, Mr Stephen J Wainwright of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED THIS 22nd DAY OF MARCH 1996.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
M J ESTILL, DIRECTOR

STAR CONSTRUCTION GROUP LIMITED
Nature of Business - HOLDING COMPANY Registered Number: 2202573 Administration Order Made 19 March 1996. Dated 22nd March 1996 Joint Administrators LA MANNING AND D.J. BUCHLER Both of BUCHLER PHILLIPS, 84 GROSVENOR STREET, LONDON W1X 9DF.

STAR BUILDING & CIVIL ENGINEERING LIMITED
Nature of Business - PLANT HIRE/DREDGING/GROUND WORKS. Registered Number: 495815. Administration Order Made:19 March 1996. Dated 22 March 1996 Joint Administrators L A MANNING AND D J BUCHLER BOTH OF BUCHLER PHILLIPS, 84 GROSVENOR STREET, LONDON W1X 9DF.

HIDAMEL LIMITED (IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, K.D. Goodman, FCA a Licenced Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co. PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 22nd March 1996. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement to prove debts will be given.
DATED THIS 22ND MARCH 1996.
K.D. Goodman, FCA, Liquidator.

INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106 (1)
KIMOTA LIMITED
IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Ian Franses of Ian Franses Associates, Conduit House, 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP was appointed Liquidator of the above-named company on the 22nd March 1996. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to Mr Ian Franses at Conduit House, 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP. I Franses - Liquidator

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
SAVAGE CONSTRUCTION LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on Wednesday 17 April 1996 at 4, Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington FIPA, of 4, Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN, is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98 (2) of the said Act who will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
DATED this 19 day of March 1996.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
ROY FREDERICK SAVAGE, DIRECTOR

FINANCIAL NOTICES

THE CARNEGIE UNITED KINGDOM TRUST

Abstract of Audited Accounts
For the Year Ended 31 December 1995

	(£)	(£)
Funds and Provisions		
Endowment Fund		25,792,801
Other Funds		1,150,921
		26,943,722
Reserve Fund		
As at 31 December 1994		1,081,323
Income from investments, etc		1,431,272
		2,512,595
Less		
Direct Charitable Expenditure	1,125,793	
Other Expenditure	235,881	
		1,361,674
As at 31 December 1995		1,150,921

C JOHN NAYLOR
Secretary and Treasurer
Comely Park House, Dunfermline, Fife KY12 7EJ
13th March 1996

Interrogatories must be necessary

Hall v Selvaco Ltd
Crompton v Sevalco Ltd

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Auld

[Judgment March 21]

Interrogatories were not to be regarded as a source of ammunition to be routinely discharged as part of an interlocutory bombardment preceding the main battle. They had to satisfy the stringent test in Order 26, rule 1(1) of the Rules of the Supreme Court, that they were "necessary either for disposing fairly of the cause or matter or for saving costs".

Where, therefore, in a personal injury action interrogatories were served shortly after the plaintiff had served his particulars of claim and medical report and before exchange of witness statements or receipt of answers to requests for further and better particulars, they were premature and covered ground already or shortly to be available to the defendant. Accordingly they could not be shown to be "necessary" within the rule.

The Court of Appeal so stated (i) allowing appeals by the plaintiffs in two actions, David Hall and William Crompton, from Judge Weeks, QC, sitting at Bristol County Court, who had set aside decisions of deputy district judges ordering the withdrawal of interrogatories served by the defendant in each case, Sevalco Ltd, and had directed them to answer the interrogatories and (ii) reinstating the orders of the deputy district judges.

Each plaintiff had begun proceedings in the county court claiming damages for industrial deafness against defendant employers and filing a medical report with the particulars of claim. In each case the defendant served its defence promptly, alleging that the claim was time-barred.

On the same date as the request for further and better particulars was made, in Mr *Hall's* case, *and* as the defence and request for further and better particulars were served, in Mr Crompton's case, the defendant served interrogatories on each plaintiff designed to elicit all information relevant to the nature and aetiology of the plaintiff's complaint. The interrogatories covered much the same ground as certain standard directions given *by courts handling* industrial deafness cases. After they were served, the defendant received answers to the request for further and better particulars in each case.

Order 14, rule 11 of the County Court Rules 1981 applied the provisions of the Rules of the Supreme Court with regard to the administration of interrogatories to county court actions.

Mr Nigel Cooksley for the plaintiff in each action; Mr Anthony Goldstaub, QC, for the defendant in each action.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the guiding principle had to be that laid down in Order 26, rule 1(1) that interrogatories had to be necessary either for disposing fairly of the cause or matter or for saving costs.

Necessity was a stringent test. It could not be necessary to interrogate to obtain information or *admissions which were or were* likely to be contained in pleadings, medical reports, discoverable documents or witness statements unless, exceptionally, a clear litigious purpose would be served by obtaining such information or admissions on affidavit.

As a general statement the court would agree with that in paragraph 11.6 of the *Guide to Commercial Court Practice (see The Supreme Court Practice 1995* (vol 1, p1255, paragraph 72/A14)) and endorsed by Mr Justice Colman in *Det Danske Hedelskabet v KDM International plc* ([1994] 2 Lloyd's Rep 534): "Suitable times to interrogate (if at all) will probably be after discovery and after exchange of witness *statements*."

Interrogatories should not be regarded as a source of ammunition to be routinely discharged as part of an interlocutory bombardment preceding the main battle. The interrogator had to be able to show that his interrogatories, if answered when served, would serve a clear litigious purpose by saving costs or promoting the fair and efficient conduct of the action.

In the *Det Danske* case Mr Justice Colman had given reliable guidance on the approach to interrogatories. Since the same rules applied in the Commercial Court as elsewhere his observations were not applicable only to commercial cases.

The court could not accept that the present interrogatories were not premature when they had been served on the same day as the request for further and better particulars and before the exchange of witness statements in Mr Halls' case; and in Mr Crompton's when the defence, request for further and better particulars and the interrogatories were all served on the same day.

If it had been thought desirable to defer the obtaining and disclosure of expert evidence, that could probably have been agreed or a court order obtained. It was a valid objection to the interrogatories that they covered ground already covered in the pleadings and the *medical reports and also the* further and better particulars when delivered.

The advantage, referred to by the judge, of having all the answers on one piece of paper could not justify the time and expense necessarily involved in requiring the plaintiffs to depose to the answers on affidavit, and there was no material before the court to justify a challenge, which had not been made, to their honesty.

It was not at all clear how the interrogatories, assuming the requests for further and better particulars were answered, as they were, and the witness statements duly exchanged, would help the defendant to decide whether to seek determination of a preliminary issue on limititation; nor how, if it decided to do so, the interrogatories would accelerate the ordinary timetable.

On the facts of the present cases, answers to the interrogatories would have added little or nothing of value to the knowledge the defendant already had or would gain from the plaintiffs' further and better particulars and witness statements; and the result would have been an increase of cost not a saving.

The court felt bound to conclude that the defendant could not show that the interrogatories were necessary so as to bring itself within Order 26, rule 1(1).

Solicitors: Veale Wasbrough, Bristol; Cartwrights, Bristol.

Bid to revive defunct statutory company fails

National Rivers Authority v Stockinger and Others

Individuals wishing to become shareholders in a defunct statutory company could not do so by *applying the principle cogito ergo* sum.

Mr Justice Laddie so held in the Chancery Division on March 12, in dismissing an appeal by Victor Stockinger and others from a decision of Master Moncaster dated November 24, 1995, whereby he declared, inter alia, that none of the defendants had validly become a shareholder, director or officer of The Company of Proprietors, a company established in 1809 by a local Act (49 Geo III Cap 78) to make the Rivers Wye and Lugg navigable and to make and maintain along parts of their banks a towing path for horses.

HIS LORDSHIP said it was undisputed that for nearly a century and a half there had been no annual general meeting of The Company of Proprietors, no treasurer, no clerk, nor could any books, if kept, be found.

Mr Stockinger, neither having any interest in the company nor being instructed on behalf of anyone who had, had simply declared himself a trustee, initiated a meeting such as true shareholders might have held and behaved as if it had; just as if he had lifted himself into the company's saddle by his own bootstraps.

The National Rivers Authority had been entitled to such declarations as would have the effect of removing an impediment affecting itself and its functions.

Sexual identity fixed at birth

Regina v Registrar General for England and Wales, Ex parte P
Same v Same, Ex parte G

The Registrar General had not acted irrationally in refusing to alter the birth certificates of applicants who had undergone gender re-assignment surgery so as to reflect their current sexual identity.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Kennedy and Mr Justice Forbes) so held in a reserved judgment on February 16, dismissing applications by P and G for judicial review of the Registrar General's refusals in September 1994 and June 1995 to amend their birth certificates to show their sex as girl rather than boy.

LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY said that section 29(3) of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953 permitted an error of fact or substance in a birth certificate to be corrected by an entry in the margin. The birth register was a historical record and not a statement of current identity.

In April 1993 there was still such uncertainty in scientific circles as to the cause of transexualism that the Registrar was fully entitled to adhere to the tests for ascertaining the sex of a child approved in *Corbett v Corbett* ([1971] P 83) and *R v Tan* ([1983] 1 QB 1053).

None of the research material since the 23rd Colloquy on European Law in Amsterdam 1993 could reasonably have been expected to be available to the Registrar when he made his decisions.

Leicester Square is not 'premises'

Regina v Bow Street Magistrates' Court and Another, Ex parte McDonald

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Shiemann and Sir Ralph Gibson

[Judgment March 20]

A busker playing his guitar in Leicester Square was not required to obtain a licence from the council to do so and was not acting unlawfully.

The provisions of the London Government Act 1963, as amended by the Greater London Council (General Powers) Act 1984, for the *licensing* of premises used for public entertainments were not designed to apply to streets or other places to which the public had access.

The Court of Appeal so held granting Bruno McDonald's application for judicial review of the decision by Mr Ronald Bartle, metropolitan stipendiary magistrate at Bow Street, to grant *Westminster City Council* a warrant empowering its officers to enter and search premises at Leicester Square and forfeit equipment belonging to Mr McDonald. In December 1994 Mr Justice Dyson had refused the application but granted Mr McDonald leave to appeal.

By paragraph 1(1) of Schedule 12 to the 1963 Act no "premises" shall be be used for "public dancing or music and any other public entertainment of the like kind, except under and in accordance with the terms of a licence..."

Paragraph 1(7) of the Schedule provides: "In this paragraph 'premises' includes any place."

Mr Charles Salter for the applicant; Mr Timothy Spencer for the council; Bow Street Magistrates' Court did not appear and was not represented.

LORD JUSTICE SHIEMANN said that the appeal raised questions of importance to buskers in London. Depending on the tastes of the hearer and skill of the busker, their activities could add or detract from the pleasures of daily life. They had been playing music for years in the streets of London.

The council maintained that they had all been acting unlawfully because none of them had a licence. The council had tolerated them for years but, it seemed, had now concluded that they ought to *be licensed and that the 1963 Act* required them to be licensed.

It was an oddity of the case that if the council was right, it had itself been guilty of persistently breaking the law by tolerating buskers on its land.

The applicant was accustomed to play his guitar on roughly the same spot in Leicester Square and he used amplifying equipment. The short issue was whether Leicester Square was properly described as "premises" for the purposes of Schedule 12.

For the council it was pointed out that "premises" included "any place" and it was submitted that Leicester Square, and any London street, could thus be described as premises. *Mr Justice Dyson* had agreed with the council.

Mr Spencer had accepted that Schedule 12 was not intended to make licenseable the activities of a Pied Piper who moved from place to place. It was, he said, confined to "any area capable of demarcation".

But such a test was inappro*priate in* the context of applying criminal sanctions. Something more was required.

Thus, Mr Spencer said, relying on *Powell v Kempton Park Racecourse Co Ltd* ([1899] AC 143, HL), a place was to be confined to an area which was regularly used by the applicant for his music making.

However, neither that case nor others *under the Shops Act* 1950 were helpful in the instant exercise.

The council accepted that the 1963 Act was not framed with buskers in mind. It clearly was not. Schedule 12 was concerned with the control of premises to which the public was invited for public dancing or music of entertainment of the like kind.

It was not designed to deal with situations going on in a street to which every music maker or other member of the public had access. One music maker could replace another at an attractive spot and the schedule did not envisage situations in which several persons were licensed during one day to operate in one place.

It was not known whether Mr McDonald had Leicester Square to himelf. One rather doubted it. Yet it was Leicester Square which was alleged to constitute the premises which should have been licensed.

Mr McDonald was playing his guitar in a public place to which the public had access and over which the council had innumerable powers. That was not a *situation for which* Schedule 12 was designed, or which should be interpreted, to cover.

The wholly artificial way in which the council tried to use its powers to secure a warrant to obtain a right of entry to a place in its own ownership, and to enter which it had no need of any warrant, made the point.

If there was a need for more controls than *the council currently* had then specific legislation should be passed giving those powers. The schedule, by dint of stretching its normal application, could not be used to assert the existence of a criminal offence which had hitherto been unsuspected.

Lord Justice Nourse and Sir Ralph Gibson agreed.

Solicitors: Wilson Barca; Mr *Colin Wilson, Westminster.*

Extra protection from date of first licence

In re Aktiebolaget Draco

Before Mr Justice Jacob

[Judgment March 14]

When a patent holder obtained a product licence for a *medicinal* product which was then the subject of further research leading to the grant of a further product licence for a new and improved form of the same chemical compound, any entitlement to a five-year supplementary protection certificate was only from the date of the first product licence and not from the later one.

The supplementary protection scheme under Regulation No EEC/1768/92 (OJ 1992 No L182/2) was not for the general protection of the fruits of research but to compensate for lost time in the exploitation of patented inventions.

Mr Justice Jacob sitting in the Chancery Division so held when dismissing an appeal by the patent holders, Aktiebolaget Draco, of Sweden, from a decision of Mr L. Lewis, a principal examiner, acting for the Comptroller of Patents, refusing to grant the patent holders a supplementary protection certificate.

Mr David Young, QC, for the patent holders; Mr Michael Silverleaf for the Comptroller.

MR JUSTICE JACOB said that for 20 years from 1973 the patent holders had a UK patent covering *a chemical compound with the* approved name of Budesonide. It reduced lung inflammation and was used in the treatment of asthma.

A medicine could not be sold unless it had a product licence and then only in accordance with the terms of that licence. It might take several years after being granted the patent to obtain a product licence, *the appropriate authorities* having to be satisfied of the medicine's safety and efficacy.

Product licences did not relate to chemical compounds as such but were much more specific about formulation and presentation of the product. In October 1981 *the* patent holders obtained a product licence ("PL1") for "Budesonide aerosol, with or without tube extension".

They did further research with the aim of finding an improved method which did not involve an aerosol. *In June 1990 they obtained* a new product licence ("PL3") for a turbohaler, described as a "dry powder inhaler device".

The member states of the EU recognised by the supplementary protection certificate scheme that research in the drug field was not getting its proper reward.

Although the term of a patent was 20 years, *it was taking so long* to get through the necessary procedures leading to authorisation to sell a drug that the practical period of *protection* was often too short.

The basic idea of the scheme was that where a patent holder of a medicine had lost time in obtaining his authorisation, he could get a further period of protection, subject to a maximum of five years, *by the grant of a supplementary* protection certificate.

The patent holders applied for a supplementary protection certificate for the *maximum* term of five years for "additive-free Budesonide in the form of agglomerated micronised particles" saying that the first authorisation for the product was PL3.

The principal examiner held that the first authorisation was not PL3 but PL1 so that no supplementary protection scheme could be granted.

The first five recitals of the regulations inidicated the importance of research and the need to encourage it so that it continued to develop in the EU. Mr Young relied on those recitals and said the turbohaler formulation was the result of research so that PL3 ought to be protected.

His Lordship did not agree. He *said that the research leading* to the turbohaler was formulation research. There was nothing indicating that formulation research, *unless* it warranted its own patent, was to be protected by the supplementary protection certificate scheme.

The scheme was not for the protection of the fruits of research. It was to compensate for the lost *time in the exploitation of* inventions which were patented. The research leading to PL3 clearly could not lead to an supplementary protection certificate.

His Lordship said *that on its face* the regulation was so clear that any court in any other EU member state as well as the European Court of Justice would find in the same way. Since the hearing *officer's decision was not only right* but was so clearly right as to be acte claire, there was *no need* to make a reference to the European Court of Justice.

Agents: J. A. Kemp & Co (patent *agents*); Treasury *Solicitor*.

TO ADVERTISE
CALL: 0171 481 4481

MEDIA, SALES & MARKETING

FAX:
0171 782 7826

SIEMENS
NIXDORF

Senior Sales Consultants

Networking Infrastructure
c £60,000 OTE plus car

Siemens Nixdorf Information Systems Ltd. is Europe's leading IT company. In the UK we have achieved outstanding success across a wide number of sectors and earned a reputation for providing innovative IT solutions.

Our IT Services business is highly successful, with revenues approaching £70 million. Our focus is totally on our customers, helping them to meet and maintain their business objectives by ensuring that they get the best possible service from their existing and future IT investments.

Key to any current and future corporate IT strategy is investment in networking. Our Network Systems Group focuses on helping major organisations with a top down approach to networking and cabling services. We design vendor-independent solutions based around leading products from organisations such as 3Com, Cabletron and Cisco. Not only are we able to supply network infrastructure, but our project management expertise allows us to implement and integrate complete business solutions for our customers. Of equal importance, we can utilise the resources of some 480 personnel within ITS to provide ongoing service and support, together with a full range of managed services through our Systems Management Centre.

It is against this background of comprehensive expertise that we are looking to expand our existing highly successful sales team. With a focus on new and existing large corporate accounts, you will be responsible for developing new infrastructure business with typical order values of £100K - £500K. Your background should include a successful track record of selling large networking solutions. In addition, you should understand the significance of integration and support services to major corporations.

Based from our UK headquarters in Bracknell, these positions offer the opportunity to make a significant impact within a highly successful business unit. *We offer a competitive package including* a high basic salary and fully expensed car, plus all the benefits associated with a leading employer.

To apply, please send your C. V. quoting reference MD4791 to our retained Consultant, Steve O'Brien at Macmillan Davies, Salisbury House, Bluecoats, Hertford SG14 1PU, fax: 01992 505301.

Weltweite Vertriebsaufgabe

Als traditionsreiches und konzernfreies Großunternehmen mit Hauptsitz in Berlin sind wir in der Lage, maßgeschneiderte Problemlösungen mit außerordentlichem Qualitäts- und Sicherheitsstandard zu erstellen.

Mit unserem spezifischen Know How und unserer hohen Leistungsfähigkeit haben wir uns einen Namen mit Weltgeltung erarbeitet. Dieses gute Renommee und unsere vielfältigen Kontakte wollen wir noch konsequenter als bisher für erfolgreiche Kundenbeziehungen nutzbar machen. Zur Ergänzung unserer im Ausbau befindlichen Vertriebsorganisation suchen wir deshalb mehrere erfahrene Mitarbeiter als

Sales Manager

Wert- und Sicherheitsdruck, Karten und Kartensysteme

Dabei liegen die Schwerpunkte im internationalen Bereich in Europa und darüber hinaus weltweit. Die Aufgabe umfaßt den gesamten Prozeß von der Kundenansprache und -pflege über die Bedarfsanalyse und Angebotserstellung bis zur Vertragsverhandlung und zum Vertragsabschluß. Hierfür stehen Ihnen im Bedarfsfall versierte Fachleute für die Lösung besonderer Kundenanforderungen als Teamkollegen zur Seite.

Wir erwarten eine solide wirtschafts- und ingenieurwissenschaftliche Ausbildung mit ausgeprägter Kommunikationsstärke und Abschlußsicherheit. Einschlägige Berufserfahrungen auf internationaler Ebene und Grundkenntnisse der deutschen Sprache sind unverzichtbar. Die Beherrschung weiterer Fremdsprachen ist von Vorteil.

Damen und Herren zwischen 30 und 40 Jahren, die gerne reisen und dabei gewohnt sind, selbständig und verantwortungsvoll tätig zu sein, können einen ersten vertraulichen Kontakt mit unseren Beratern, den Herren Jürgen Below und Marcus Meyer unter der Rufnummer ++49 / 30 / 8826783 aufnehmen. Äußerste Diskretion und vertrauliche Behandlung werden zugesichert.

In jedem Fall richten Sie bitte Ihre vollständige, schriftliche Bewerbung (tabellarischer Lebenslauf, Lichtbild, Zeugnisse sowie Angaben zum Gehaltswunsch und Eintrittstermin) unter Angabe der Kennziffer 812709 an Bleibtreustraße 24 in **D-10707 Berlin**.

Kienbaum und Partner
Internationale Personal- und Unternehmensberater
Gummersbach, Düsseldorf, Berlin, Dresden, Frankfurt/Main, Hamburg, Hannover, Karlsruhe, München, Stuttgart;
Zürich, Wien, San Francisco, São Paulo, Johannesburg
Zertifiziert nach EN ISO 9001

FREELANCE
JOURNALIST
Study from home and make writing a new career or profitable second income.
Free 0800 371 500
MORRIS
COLLEGE OF JOURNALISM

MARKETING PROFESSIONAL
A new position and significant opportunity, in the PC Division of a major Berkshire based manufacturer. To manage the marketing programme of an important new product.
A specialist in imaging/photographic processes and exp. in retail channels and home marketing is required.
Package c£50k plus extensive travel.
Perkins James & Assoc.
(consultants)
Tel: 0181 224 9967
Fax: 0181 224 9962.

CONSULTANTS
Required to counsel Clients
- General Management
- Business Strategy/Marketing
- Cost Reduction Analysis
- Corporate Finance
- Bank Interest Auditing

To be considered for this career opportunity, please send your C.V. quoting T1471 to:
Euro Business Assistance Plc. Lansbury Est., Knaphill, Surrey GU21 2EP
OFFICES AT WOKING
CHELTENHAM
BIRMINGHAM
HARROGATE EDINBURGH

Zenithmedia

The UK's leading media specialist seeks numerate, articulate, and sociable graduate trainees for positions in media buying. We offer a structured training programme and a starting salary of £12,000, with regular reviews. Successful applicants will have an informed and lively interest in media markets.
Letter and short C.V. to:
Alison Breslaw, Zenith Media, 63/65 North Wharf Road, London W2 1LA.

ELIZABETH GAGE
requires an enthusiastic & experienced
SALES PERSON
for her Mayfair shop
Exquisite and exclusive designs
Internationally renowned clients
Salary negotiable depending on experience
Please call Karen Quevillon on 0171 823 2868
or fax CV on 0171 235 9779

Can You Afford Not To Join Us?
Direct Sales Closers
OTE £25 - £50k
As one of our consultants you will be aged between 30 and 60 and can expect to:-
- Benefit from substantial earnings/bonus opportunities
- Be paid weekly
- Be associated with a 23 year old multi-million pound group
- Be provided with comprehensive on-going training and support
- Seek career progression
- Work in a professional environment
- Have a guarantee of continuous assignments

We want professionals to work with professionals, so if you think you fit the bill call *Carrie Kellett* on 01263 783254 (24 hours) - Quoting reference RVB 003
(We are an equal opportunities organisation.)

TRAINEE MANAGERS
Prestigious company in Central London seeks hard working, honest and above all, financially motivated graduates (23-30). Potentially very high remuneration, with a view to management and profit share. No previous experience necessary.
Contact:
MARTIN LOCKYEAR
0171 497 3005

SALES DIRECTOR
Substantial basic
OTE £100,000.
Dynamic and extrovert, you should have a proven track record in sales/sales management. Knowledge of NT and Networking essential.
Tel I.T.S:
0171 583 0511/0622

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:
BOX No. ....
c/o THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS
P.O. BOX 3553, VIRGINIA ST, LONDON, E1 9GA

Woman's Hour has thrived for 50 years by maintaining a balance between radical feminism and unapologetic domesticity

Give truck drivers their hour back

BRENDA MADDOX

On next Friday's *Woman's Hour* Jenni Murray, the main presenter for nine years, will pick up the Broadcasting Press Guild award for Radio Broadcaster of the Year. She wins not only for consistent intelligence, news sense, imagination and stamina — broadcasting live for four mornings a week — but also for the remarkable quality of her voice. In my long and unsuccessful efforts to sound less "backwoods Massachusetts", I have often thought that, born again, I would come back as Jenni Murray.

The wheel has come full circle since 1946. Now, as then, there is no need to justify a programme dedicated to the female point of view. The separateness of the sexes, and the conflict between them, now seems to fill more newspaper and broadcasting space than politics and economics. No longer do you hear men sneering: "So why not a Man's Hour, then?" In today's media you can't get away from male angst, from impotence to baldness.

So *Woman's Hour*'s agenda is clear: the topical and the timeless, the public and the personal. Monday's interview with Susan Sarandon about the political uses of stardom was a good example. "But if you were starting such a programme today," suggests Paul Donovan, radio critic of *The Sunday Times*, "you wouldn't call it *Woman's Hour*, would you?" No, you'd call it *The Girlie Show*, and you'd get the same result — women saying what they don't say elsewhere and men tuning in to hear it. But in 50 years from now, Channel 4 will not be celebrating *The Girlie Show*. While *Woman's Hour* may recognise shoplifting as a women's problem, it will not tell you how to do it.

Woman's Hour has a lot of opponents, mainly the same Middle England voices hounding Channel 4. Its tone is far too feminist-combative for those who would prefer every woman to be pruning roses waiting for the breadwinner to come home. It was ever thus. Since the beginning the programme has been lambasted as impossibly radical or laughably domestic. Its survival is proof of its successful balance — abortion rights one minute, Agas the next.

The shifting of *Woman's Hour* in 1991 from its traditional 2pm slot to 10.30am was a national trauma. Articles in the press and sacks of letters begged Michael Green, then Controller of Radio 4, not to do it. He did it anyway, for doctrinal reasons. Radio 4 mid-morning audiences showed a sag and a lively, topical magazine programme seemed the way to lift the numbers.

So it has done, but not by very much. The daily audience is modestly bigger at 600,000 (instead of 500,000). And, yes, more men are listening — but not very many more. The sex ratio in 1991 was 70-30, now it is 65-35.

What better way to celebrate the golden anniversary than by admitting that these gains are paltry and by moving the programme back to its original time slot? Oh, but it would lose the new audience. Oh no it won't, to judge from a truck driver's lament on another Radio 4 programme, *The Trade Rag*, last week: "A great tragedy for British working truck drivers was when *Woman's Hour* was altered to 10.30 in the morning. That's no use to anyone. In the morning, you're getting in and out of the cab, delivering the goods ... In the afternoon we're running back, and there's a chance to relax and listen to *Woman's Hour*."

The original justification for the time slot was that 2pm was the one hour of the day that a 1946 housewife could call her own — the dishes and cleaning done, the baby put down for a nap and the older children not yet home from school.

That reasoning, with appropriate modifications, still holds. Jenni Murray (although not complaining about having to get up early) fears that, by going out in the morning, the programme now may not be reaching an important constituency — women who work part-time. Many of these get home just after lunch and have an hour to themselves before they collect their children from school. This pattern applies to work-at-home fathers too.

Woman's Hour's natural time is still the early afternoon if only because one of the few stable things in a changing society is the closing time of the school day.

Fiftieth anniversaries abound this year as the BBC celebrates its postwar innovations, including Alistair Cooke's *Letter from America* and the Third Programme. Its Russian Service is a third. On Monday night, coming straight to its celebration party from the Campaign for Freedom of Information's award ceremony for those who have fought against the British habit of official secrecy, I was refreshed to hear a reminder of government doing something in favour of openness.

In 1946 Sir Ivone Kirkpatrick, head of information at the Foreign Office, launched the service in the hope it would broadcast into the Soviet Union "the true proportion both of favourable and unfavourable opinion". This sense of proportion, and the Foreign Office's trust in the BBC to deliver it, saved the Russian Service from turning into "Cold War Radio", as its American counterparts did. Perhaps the FO should get a freedom of information award.

And finally, all the excitement about the V-chip has invested it with magical powers to bleep out the offensive words and scenes of a parent's choosing. Nothing like. The V-chip, as about to be introduced in Canada and the United States, blocks out whole programmes, not just the naughty bits. What it should really be called is a ratings system, but there are no headlines in that.

A very public divorce

Did South Africa feast too richly on the Mandela split, asks

Ray Kennedy

Despite constitutional restrictions, lurid details of the Mandelas' divorce hearing were splashed across the press

The South African Divorce Act, as amended in 1979, is perfectly explicit: it is illegal to publish any particulars of an action other than the names of the parties and the judgment or order of the court. In the case of President Nelson Mandela and his former wife, Winnie Mdikizela-Mandela, as she now wishes to be known, the media reported every salacious detail of bedroom snubs, adultery and alleged wifely extravagance.

Since then there has been a collective beating of editorial breasts over whether or not, in a case involving two prominent public figures, there was justification to ignore the law. Mr Justice Eloff, who heard the case and is also Judge President of Transvaal, did not raise objections at the hearing in Johannesburg, although he had ample opportunity to do so.

A member of Mr Mandela's legal team said: "No one from our side raised any objection. The publicity would have done him more harm if the trial [sic] was held in secret."

The central issue is whether the restrictions imposed by the Divorce Act are unconstitutional in South Africa's post-apartheid climate and in the light of the Government's support for press freedom and freedom of expression enshrined in a Bill of Rights.

Professor Dennis Davies, a constitutional law specialist at the University of Witwatersrand, found it "unbelievable" that the restrictions were breached so brazenly. "Being President gives you a reduced right to privacy, but it can't possibly destroy your privacy completely," Professor Davies said. "He might be the most famous person in the world, but he is not public property."

But Raymond Louw, former Editor of the *Rand Daily Mail*, until its demise in the early 1980s an opponent of apartheid, thought it was a risk that went with the job. Mr Louw, now chairman of the Freedom of Expression Institute, a constitutional lobbying body, was part of a delegation that approached the Government in 1979, when the Divorce Act amendments were enacted, to protest that they were being introduced to hide potentially important information from the public. Mr Louw said: "I feel sympathy for the President that his private life has to be bandied about in public ... but this is the price one pays for democracy."

The scrutiny of public figures in South Africa has been turned on its head by a ruling in the Constitutional Court last month in which Mr Justice Cameron overturned an Appeal Court judgment against a newspaper for defamation. General Bantu Holomisa, a junior minister, was alleged to have been involved in infiltrating armed men into northern KwaZulu/Natal "to kill whites" in 1994 when he ruled the former Transkei homeland.

Judge Cameron said a successful democracy depended on "robust criticism of the exercise of power", which required alert citizens as well as an independent media. Anyone who sought to inhibit political speech by suing for defamation should have to prove that the media had "forfeited entitlement to constitutional protection" even if the published information turned out to be false.

His ruling effectively set a new benchmark for litigation by public figures leaning towards the well-established principle in the United States that a democracy cannot flourish unless its citizens are free to criticise officials. He said the judgment was based on a legal system that "did not treasure at its core a democratic system". The country's new values of legal order depended on "vigorous mechanisms of public scrutiny and public debate, not only to nurture the new structures but to guard against excesses in their exercise".

> 'This is the price that one has to pay for democracy'

After it came to power in May 1994, pledging transparent government, the African National Congress enjoyed a long honeymoon with a South African press that had endured and in some cases vigorously opposed decades of legislated censorship and hostility under the apartheid regime. Up to 100 laws inhibiting access to information and freedom to publish were enacted, culminating in the nationwide state of emergency proclaimed in 1986, which carried threats of fines of up to 20,000 rand (about £3,300) or ten years in jail for contravening media restrictions.

But many of the ANC's office bearers, during years of exile in dictatorial African states or behind the Iron Curtain, have had experience of societies where freedom of expression was severely limited. They are increasingly sensitive to criticism as media attention turns to issues such as the Government's housing record — far behind the promised one million new homes in five years — the severe crime wave and the extravagance of some of the new elite.

There are also concerns about the media's ownership structure, which President Mandela has noted is "not only concentrated in a few hands but reflects the patterns of racial exclusion characteristic of the apartheid era".

Many of the apartheid-era laws restricting press freedom and access to information remain on the statute book, although they are now almost totally ignored. Mr Louw suspects that the Government wants to retain them. But he concedes that, while editorship is still a legal minefield, the bombs go off less often.

Alan Mitchell looks at a new way of buying our food

Don't go shopping, let it come to you

SAINSBURY'S is planning to revolutionise the way people shop by delivering groceries straight to customers' homes. The country's second-biggest supermarket chain is negotiating with Supermarket Direct, a London-based home shopping firm, to co-brand its operation as a Sainsbury-endorsed service.

The venture has been operating in the Wimbledon, Putney, Fulham and Clapham areas of south London since last October. The plan is for nationwide expansion, and a stock market flotation in two to three years' time. Dominic Scott-Flanagan, a director, says: "We believe that once consumers have shopped with us they will never want to visit a busy supermarket again."

Home delivery of items from pizzas to personal computers is burgeoning as consumers seek added convenience. But the delivery of the weekly food shop has been dismissed as a non-starter. Taking orders over the phone, processing them and organising temperature-controlled deliveries is expensive. Richard Chadwick, Sainsbury's business development director, says: "There will always be people who want to come in, or who won't trust home-delivery for perishables."

Now the tide is turning as small London ventures such as Supermarket Direct and Food Ferry prove that enough consumers are prepared to pay an extra £5 or so to avoid the weekly supermarket pilgrimage. Jonathan Hartnell-Beavis, a Food Ferry director says: "Food Ferry is growing at 30 per cent a year. There is huge public demand, and it is going to keep growing as our cities become more crowded." Mr Chadwick says Sainsbury's long-term estimate is that home delivery will gain 5 to 10 per cent of the UK's £80 billion food market.

Now, having spent billions of pounds building superstores over the past decade, the grocery chains' viability rests on their ability to maintain their magnetism. Even a loss of 5 per cent — Sainsbury's lower estimate for the market — could transform superstores into white elephants.

Early adopters of home delivery are likely to be dual-income professional couples with children, families prepared to pay big margins on expensive food and drink for the privilege of having it delivered to their door. These people are so profitable that a superstore with 20,000 regular customers faces losing 10 per cent of its total profits if just 200 of them disappear.

... AND 24 TINS BEST MIDDLE CUT SALMON ...
HOME SHOPPING
Smythe

That has been the experience in America, where Peapod, the leader in the home-shopping field, counts 60 per cent of its customers as dual-income families with children. The big shift, however, will take place only when "door-drop density" reaches a point where it actually becomes cheaper to deliver direct to the home.

The supermarkets have an interest in delaying that day as long as possible. While Sainsbury's ponders closer links with Supermarket Direct, it has no financial links with the firm. Tesco has started delivering the weekly shop to clients of Ealing social services, and has a long-standing direct-delivery service for wine, flowers and hampers. But what both companies are really looking for are ways that keep shoppers coming to their stores.

One alternative to home delivery is office delivery. Another is petrol station delivery: have your weekly staples loaded into your car while filling up at your supermarket petrol station. Or else have your order for regular items such as potatoes, milk, butter, baked beans and petfood prepacked and waiting for you at the store. Then spend a shorter but more enjoyable shopping time choosing the more exciting items.

Marks & Spencer is experimenting with a different twist: allow people to choose and pay for their goods during their lunch hours and have them delivered to their homes later that day, for a fee of £5. As their most profitable consumers may desert them, the big retail chains will have no choice, says Mr Scott-Flanagan, but to offer home delivery. Meanwhile, Kevin Duffill, operations director at Andersen Consulting's Smart Store project, says they will do their best to provide more reasons to go to supermarkets.

THE TIMES

Take two children FREE to a Tussauds attraction

The Times, in association with Tussauds Group, offers readers a chance to take two children, in April (excluding Easter 5-8 inclusive) and May, free to any of Tussauds' eight attractions saving up to £26.

Full details appeared in Saturday's Times, but the following are the attractions you can enjoy, with the amount you would save off the price of tickets for two children in brackets: Chessington World of Adventures (save £26); Alton Towers (save £26); Madame Tussaud's (save £11.50); The London Planetarium (save £7.20); Warwick Castle (save £10.50); Rock Circus (save £11.90); Port Aventura, Spain (save £32); Madame Tussaud Scenerama, Holland (save £12).

Although you cannot take the children to one of these exciting attractions at Easter, there are other bank holidays, in May, when you can take advantage of this offer.

HOW TO APPLY

You need to attach four differently numbered tokens from *The Times* (no photocopies will be accepted) to a completed entry form which appeared on Saturday and in yesterday's paper. More tokens will be published daily until next next Saturday, March 30, 1996.

Present them at the ticket office of the attraction you visit.

You are entitled to up to two free child entries per party when paying one full adult admission.

The entry form plus tokens can only be used for one visit to any one attraction, subject to availability.

This offer excludes the Easter weekend and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

THE TIMES
The TUSSAUDS Group
TOKEN FOUR
Offer excludes Easter April 5-8 inc.

Death in the afternoon

THE afternoon is about to become the new battle ground for terrestrial television audiences. *Alexandra Frean writes.*

Channel 5, the nation's fifth free-to-air channel which is due to launch to 70 per cent of the country next January, has already earmarked weekday afternoons as one of the most vulnerable areas in the main broadcasters' schedules, which have consistently failed to live up to expectations.

Our ratings chart shows that afternoons are dominated by chat shows, imported soap operas and game shows. Apart from BBC2's exceptional cookery programme, *Ready, Steady, Cook*, there has been little innovation in this area for years.

In anticipation of Channel 5's arrival, ITV has already strengthened its afternoon output, with new shows such as *Sixth Sense*, in which a clairvoyant interviews a studio guest.

THE TIMES TOP 20 DAYTIME PROGRAMMES

March 4 to 8, 1996

Programme	Date	Time	Channel	Producer	Genre	Audience (m)
1. Neighbours	Mon 04	13.40	BBC1	Grundy Int Ops	Soap	4.0
2. Ready, Steady, Cook	Fri 08	16.30	BBC2	Bazal Productions	Lifestyle	3.8
3. One O'Clock News	Mon 04	13.00	BBC1	BBC	News	3.7
4. Countdown	Wed 06	16.31	CH4	Yorkshire Television	Game Show	3.6
5. Home And Away	Fri 08	12.59	ITV	Seven Net Australia	Soap	3.4
6. Esther	Fri 08	17.00	BBC2	BBC	Cons Affs	3.2
7. Lunchtime News	Fri 08	12.30	ITV	ITN	News	2.9
8. Today's The Day	Fri 08	16.01	BBC2	Mentorn Films	Game Show	2.9
9. Vanessa	Tue 05	14.20	ITV	Anglia/Multimedia Ents	Chat Show	2.3
10. News And Weather	Fri 08	15.55	BBC2	BBC	News	2.3
11. Montel Williams Show	Tue 05	17.01	CH4	Paramount/Midatlantic	Chat Show	2.2
12. Going For A Song	Mon 04	12.30	BBC1	Maverick Television	Game Show	2.1
13. Ricki Lake	Thu 07	17.01	CH4	Garth Ancier/Columbus	Chat Show	2.1
14. Chain Letters*	Fri 08	13.25	ITV	Tyne Tees/Action Time	Game Show	2.0
15. This Morning	Fri 08	11.08	ITV	Granada	Cons Affs	1.8
16. The Oprah Winfrey Show	Thu 07	17.00	BBC2	Harpo Productions	Chat Show	1.8
17. Pebble Mill	Mon 04	14.03	BBC1	BBC	Chat Show	1.7
18. A Country Practice*	Tue 05	13.53	ITV	JNP Production	Soap	1.7
19. Passport To Terror	Mon 04	15.06	BBC2	Orion	Film	1.7
20. The Time The Place	Fri 08	10.01	ITV	Anglia Television	Cons Affs	1.6

BARB (Broadcasters' Audience Research Board)/David Graham & Associates 01823 322829. Copyright/no unauthorized reproduction. Repeats/second transmissions not aggregated. Highest editions per week only. Incomplete network transmissions marked (*).

Now free calls and one second billing.

LIMITED OFFER £9.99 INC. VAT

NOKIA
GSM MODEL 2010.
◆ 99 name/number memory
◆ 200 mins talk-time*
◆ 60 hrs standby-time*
◆ Complete with standard battery and rapid travel charger
◆ Weight approx 320g
* Cumulative figures when using both batteries

FREE IN-CAR ADAPTOR/CHARGER
FREE SPARE BATTERY
FREE LEATHER CASE
TOGETHER WORTH OVER £75

GUARANTEED PEACE OF MIND
Your phone is covered by our 14 days no quibble money back promise.

- FREE CALLS - 50 minutes per month in March, April and May
- ONE SECOND BILLING - you only pay for the air time you use
- FREE ACCESSORIES worth over £75
- DIGITAL call clarity and security
- BEST COVERAGE of the UK, most of Europe and beyond on the Vodafone GSM network

VODAFONE PERSONALWORLD

Connection	£35.25 (£30+VAT)
Monthly Rental	£17.63 (£15+VAT)
Peak Rate Calls UK Wide	35.25p per min (30p+VAT)
Off Peak Calls	11.75p per min (10p+VAT)

PersonalWorld peak times are 7.00-19.00 Mon to Fri. Mandatory itemised billing will be charged at £1.77 inc VAT per month. Line rental (debited monthly in advance) and airtime charges will be debited to your nominated credit/charge or Delta card. Calls charged in 1 second units.

FREE CALLS 50 MINUTES PER MONTH IN MARCH, APRIL & MAY

Cellphones direct

ORDER NOW WITH YOUR CREDIT CARD DETAILS FOR FREE DELIVERY IN 4 WORKING DAYS

FREEPHONE 0800 000 888
CREDIT CARD ORDERING HOTLINE WEEKDAYS 9AM TO 7PM WEEKENDS 9AM TO 6PM

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CREDIT CARD AND THIS ADVERTISEMENT HANDY WHEN YOU CALL AND QUOTE REF 3511. (SORRY WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT SWITCH CARDS)

Offer subject to status and a standard airtime contract for each phone with Cellphones Direct Ltd, 185 Lower Richmond Road, Richmond-upon-Thames TW9 4LN. Full written details and terms and conditions of this offer are available on request. © Copyright. Registered No. 2995222

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Mass cull of cattle in prospect

■ The Government was last night seriously considering the large-scale destruction of cattle as European veterinary officials upheld their plans for a world ban.

A National Farmers' Union scheme involves incinerating more than 800,000 animals a year, mainly from dairy herds, and would cost as much as £700 million in compensation. Up to 16,000 a week would be culled and their carcasses destroyed rather than used for food .... **Pages 1, 2, 10, 11, 18, 19**

Mafia linked to infected meat

■ Italian complacency over "mad cow" disease turned to alarm as another case of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease surfaced and there were fears that the Mafia may have sold infected cattle. A carabineri "anti-adulteration unit" impounded shipments of British beef in Sardinia and Turin............**Page 1**

Cambodia kidnap

Christopher Howes, a British charity worker kidnapped at gunpoint in northwest Cambodia, was believed to have been seized by a breakaway faction of the Khmer Rouge .... **Page 1**

Scott in row

Sir Richard Scott is embroiled with Whitehall over plans to publish thousands of confidential Government documents which he examined in the course of his arms-to-Iraq inquiry......... **Page 2**

Sword evidence

A cavalry sword, probably used to decapitate one of his victims, linked an Australian roadworker to the murders of seven tourists, the "backpacker trial" in Sydney was told .... **Page 3**

Bypass go-slow

The Newbury bypass could be further delayed while conservation experts think what to do with Desmoulin's Whorl, a snail the size of a breadcrumb ....**Page 3**

Forces ferries

Two roll-on, roll-off ferries are to be bought for the Armed Forces as part of a £150 million package to boost their rapid deployment capability........................... **Page 5**

Royal slip

Buckingham Palace blamed a computer error for the Queen's failure to deliver a key part of her speech, about Polish Jews, to the Polish Parliament .... **Page 5**

Healthy nation

Britons are not only living longer but are staying healthier in old age. Although the population is growing older, there is no increase in the proportion of dependent people .... **Page 7**

Violent crime up

Violent crime and robberies increased last year in spite of the third consecutive annual overall drop in recorded offences in England and Wales, by 2.4 per cent to 5,123,000 .... **Page 7**

British Oscars

Britons triumphed at the Oscars with Emma Thompson (*Sense and Sensibility* screenplay) and Nick Park (creator of Wallace and Gromit) making cinematic history.................... **Pages 9, 17, 19**

Hong Kong pressure

China has told senior Hong Kong civil servants that they must demonstrate their support for the Peking-appointed Provisional Legislative Council .... **Page 12**

Back to his roots

Bob Dole made an emotional return to his birthplace of Russell, Kansas, as he was cementing the Republican nomination in the California primary .... **Page 13**

Bosnia warning

Western diplomats say that unless the ceasefire in Bosnia is stabilised, the elections planned for this autumn may be postponed or scrapped .... **Page 14**

Cyber cheating comes to Scotland

■ Up to 20,000 candidates for Scotland's Higher Grade mathematics examination, which is used for university entrance, can read the answers to the coursework section on the Internet. There is no time for the Scottish Examination Board to issue new topics and it said it would not scrap the questions, which account for 10 per cent of the marks...................**Page 1**

A toy pig joins the winners of the best visual effects Oscar. Their film "Babe" is about a talking pig that wants to be a sheepdog

BUSINESS

Railtrack: The Government said that it is aiming to float the company that owns 10,000 miles of track and 2,500 stations in the first half of May........................ **Page 25**

Halifax: Britain's largest building society made £1.1 billion in the year to end January after charging £113 million for the cost of merging with the Leeds Permanent......... **Page 25**

P&O: The shipping and construction group is planning to float off Bovis, its homes subsidiary, and to raise £500 million from property disposals............................ **Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 21.0 points to close at 3660.9. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 83.3 to 83.2 after a fall from $1.5240 to $1.5222 and from DM2.2517 to DM2.2465....**Page 28**

SPORT

Football: England have made four changes from the side which drew with Portugal for the match against Bulgaria. Les Ferdinand will lead the attack......................... **Page 48**

Cricket: David Lloyd and John Emburey remain the favourites to be appointed coach to the England team this summer. A new management structure will be created before the winter tour........... **Page 48**

Drugs in sport: The director general of the Sports Council is optimistic that high-resolution drug-testing apparatus will soon become available in Britain........... **Page 44**

Racing: A change in entry rules for the Royal Artillery Gold Cup at Sandown Park enabled the Queen Mother to enjoy her 413th success as an owner .... **Page 45**

ARTS

Dramatic reappraisal: Samuel Beckett would have been 90 next month, but he is still both revered and neglected. Andy Lavender assesses the great man's place in the Nineties .... **Page 37**

Job fears: With the polls suggesting that insecurity at work worries the British more than anything else, Jimmy Murphy's new play, *Brothers of the Brush*, is undoubtedly timely........................ **Page 37**

Dancing delight: Cinderella is treated to a splendid ball in English National Ballet's superb new staging by Michael Corder at the Coliseum........................... **Page 38**

Festive delights: From Brescia to Vienna, we choose the highlights of the coming season of European festivals.............................. **Page 39**

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ FILMS
Geoff Brown reviews *Dead Man Walking*, starring Oscar-winner Susan Sarandon (left), and other releases

■ BOOKS
Gitta Sereny on *Hitler's Willing Executioners*

FEATURES

Couch comfort: Susie Orbach on why psychotherapy is not a soft option .... **Page 17**

FASHION

Designer decade: Donna Karan and her customers are celebrating ten years of understated dressing for women on the move .... **Page 16**

MEDIA

Dining on divorce: The South African media brazenly breached the law to report every detail of the Mandela divorce................ **Page 23**

HOMES

Run-down and out: Rachel Kelly on why a squire and his wife are swapping suburbia for an old, cold, damp family pile................ **Page 34**

PROPERTY

Moving out: Why high street firms are leaving town .... **Page 36**

THE PAPERS

The sleek folks at the Oscars gave $615,000 to the Democratic Party and $5,750 to the Republicans. They fear a Republican government would try to impose "censorship". To them, Bob Dole's speech criticising Hollywood's values is probably "censorship". Candidate Clinton will also criticise those values but the smart money in Hollywood knows where its interests reside — *The Wall Street Journal*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Miss UK may be politically incorrect, but what about Mr UK? *Modern Times: Beautiful Men* (BBC2, 9pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss on a Mersey beat that fails to pound.............................. **Page 47**

OPINION

Here we go again

John Major may have ERM engraved on his heart but BSE is bidding fair to be tattooed alongside .... **Page 18**

POPA railway

For new Railtrack shareholders, the political risk is likely to be less than the discount on the new shares may suggest........... **Page 19**

Tie me up, tie me down

What happened to the black tie and why was this formal dress given such short shrift by America's gifted great and good?............ **Page 19**

COLUMNS

SIMON JENKINS

Jargon on infectivity is no help. I want to know where beef-eating stands on the spectrum of reckless liberties that *I* take with my body every hour of every day. I do not want to hear about inconceivably or extremely smalls........... **Page 18**

ALAN COREN

Adult screens would go blank in the middle of *Brookside* and *Pride and Prejudice* would suddenly turn into *Beavis and Butthead*. Stick this chip into the family box, wailed the parents, and it will become Pandora's .... **Page 18**

SIMON BARNES

The concept of fun — perhaps the first motivator for all sport — has all but vanished. Blame athletes? One might as well blame weathercocks for the wind .... **Page 44**

PETER RIDDELL

Beef will not be on the front pages for ever and BSE is likely to be remembered as merely a footnote in the history of the Major Government, but in its decline rather than its recovery .... **Page 10**

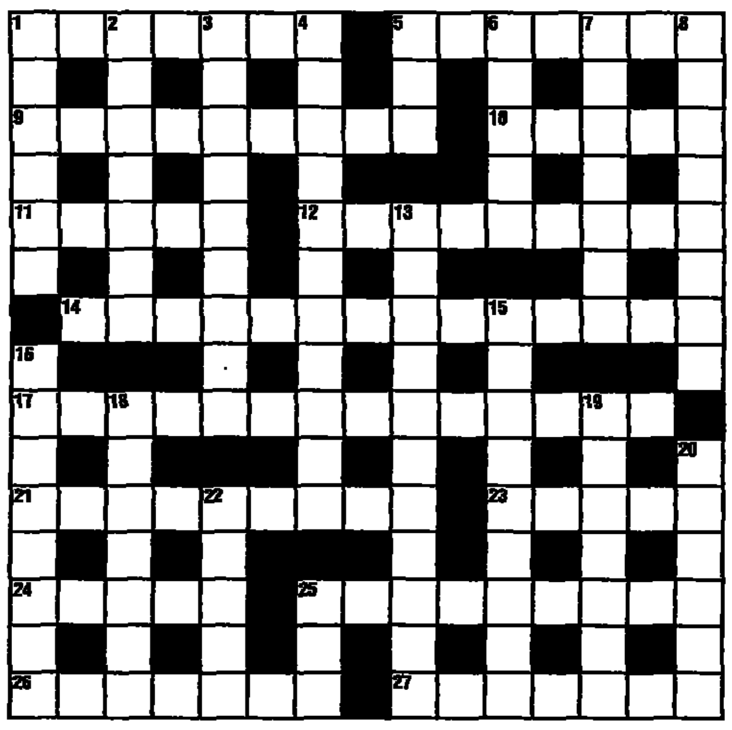
OBITUARIES

Senator Edmund Muskie, US Secretary of State, 1980-81; **John Pafford**, Goldsmiths' Librarian of the University of London; **John Snagge**, broadcaster .... **Page 21**

LETTERS

BSE; Cairn Gorm; standards at the bench; speeding offences; economic insecurity........................ **Page 19**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,126



ACROSS

1 Forceful detectives holding crowd back (7).
5 Husband swimming near ship — it hangs about the bay (7).
9 Confusing sin with virtue can be disturbing (9).
10 Murder victim found beside root of elm tree (5).
11 Some tear this, making a hole (5).
12 Immediately caught leaving charming woman by river (9).
14 Description of intriguing garment with ragged pieces (5-3-6).
17 Take steps as quickly as possibly to limit damage done by strikers (3,3,8).
21 Explain meaning of popular palindrome (9).
23 Suitable position for one received with honour in Tyneside (5).
24 Not a minor form of education (5).
25 Start a bus moving around bases (9).
26 There's a show of disapproval when it's raised on the ridge (7).
27 Ball knocked about in various directions in the Oval, loosely (7).

DOWN

1 Animal controller's club (6).
2 Unsophisticated old city in African province (7).
3 Appropriate solution when a fresh trap's required (9).
4 Dramatic film — one depending on a bluff? (11).
5 Tool the governor carries round (3).
6 Right to go on every part of river (5).
7 Becoming horizontal as day's ending (7).
8 Clergyman's producing piece of pottery with it inside (8).
13 Fearful increase includes bill (11).
15 A new number has a story cut before delivery takes place (9).
16 Angered? That's about right, it appears to be annoying (8).
18 This country's invested in bags with oriental ornament from Japan (7).
19 Embrace son in strange new place (7).
20 Herb proved effective in opening spell (6).
22 It provides airlift to take gold over hill (5).
25 Broadcast thus to an audience (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,125

B	A	C	K	D	R	O	P		C	R	U	T	C	H
	C		I		E		U		A			E		E
W	H	I	N	E	S		T	O	R	T	U	R	E	S
	I		G		U		O		P			M		I
H	E	L	M	S	M	E	N		E	G	O	I	S	T
	V		A		E		E		T			N		A
P	E	C	K	S		A	S	P	E	R	S	I	O	N
E			E		S		F		D		U			C
N	A	R	R	A	T	I	O	N		U	N	T	I	E
T		E			U		O		P		D		N	
A	F	F	A	I	R		T	U	R	N	O	V	E	R
G		I			G		D		E		W		X	
R	A	N	C	H	E	R	O		L	A	N	D	A	U
A		E			O		W		I		E		C	
M	O	D	E	R	N		N	U	M	E	R	A	T	E

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 51 per cent of the solo competitors in the Manchester Regional Final of The Times Aberlour Crossword Championship and by 26 per cent of the pairs.

Times Two Crossword, page 48

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts, Gloucs, Avon, Soms	705
Berks, Bucks, Oxon	706
Beds, Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops, Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 5.47 am
Sun sets: 6.26 pm
Moon sets 1.46 am
Moon rises 10.53 am

First quarter today
London 6.26 pm to 5.45 am
Bristol 6.36 pm to 5.54 am
Edinburgh 6.41 pm to 5.54 am
Manchester 6.36 pm to 5.52 am
Penzance 6.47 pm to 6.07 am

HAVE YOU PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS?

Spent serious money on your teeth for crowns or bridgework? Then shouldn't you insure that like any other investment? ACCIdental Dental Injuries Plan gives you affordable cover.

WPA
Western Provident Association
FREECALL 0500 41 42 43

FORECAST

☐ **General:** Wales and central and western England should be dry with broken cloud. Eastern England will be cloudy at times with wintry showers possible near the coast. Northern Ireland and most of Scotland should have a dry day with some sunshine. It will be cold with moderate winds.

☐ **London, SE England, Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Central N:** dry, sunny/clear spells. Winds light, E to N. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **E Anglia, E England, NE England:** cloudy, brighter or clearer intervals, mostly dry though an odd shower is possible. Winds light or moderate mainly NE. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland:** mainly dry, sunny spells, but mostly cloudy later. Winds variable then mainly moderate, becoming W. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Moray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland:** mostly dry, then cloudy and rain later. Winds mainly W moderate, locally fresh. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** cloudy, rain at times. Winds W fresh. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Outlook:** cold with night frost.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

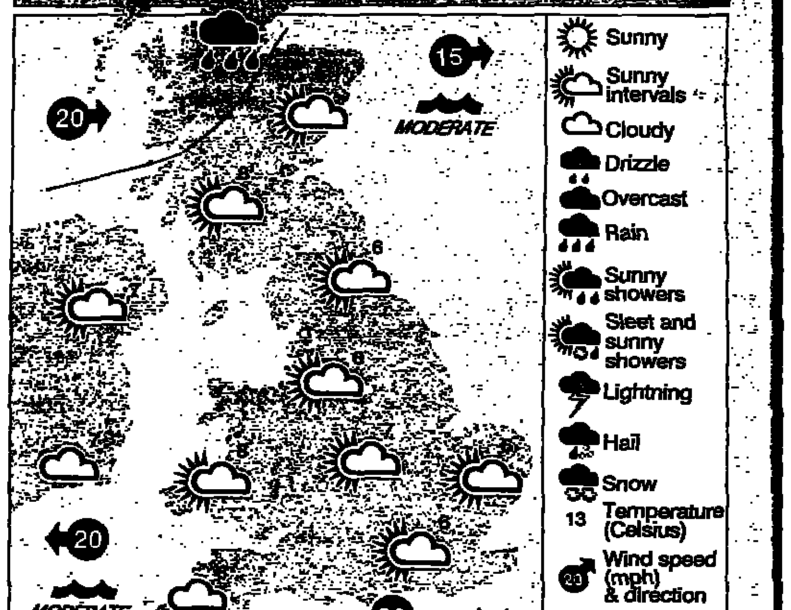
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	3.3	0.02	5	41	sn	Liverpool	-	-	6	43	r
Aspatria	3.9	-	7	45	sh	London	-	0.09	7	45	r
Aviemore	1.5	0.06	4	39	sn	Lowestoft	-	-	4	39	c
Belfast	3.2	-	7	45	c	Manchester	-	0.01	6	43	r
Birmingham	-	0.02	4	39	r	Margate	-	0.04	6	43	r
Bognor R	-	0.35	6	43	r	Minehead	-	0.09	5	41	du
Bournem'th	-	0.15	6	43	d	Morecambe	2.4	-	8	46	c
Bristol	-	0.14	6	43	du	Newcastle	0.7	0.04	5	41	sh
Buxton	-	-	3	37	du	Newquay	-	0.07	X	X	c
Clacton	-	-	5	41	c	Norwich	-	-	5	41	c
Colwyn Bay	-	0.19	6	43	r	Oxford	-	0.35	5	41	r
Cromer	1.0	-	4	39	c	Penzance	-	0.13	9	48	r
Eastbourne	-	0.28	6	43	r	Poole	-	0.08	7	45	d
Edinburgh	1.5	0.02	6	43	sl	Prestatyn	-	0.11	7	45	r
Eskdalemuir	0.3	0.02	5	41	sn	Ross-o-wye	-	0.52	4	39	r
Exmouth	-	0.11	6	43	du	Salcombe	-	0.01	7	45	d
Falmouth	-	0.11	8	46	r	Sandown	-	0.28	6	43	d
Folkestone	-	0.20	7	45	r	Saunton Snd	-	0.01	8	46	du
Glasgow	2.2	-	6	43	s	Shrewsbury	-	0.03	5	41	r
Guernsey	-	0.01	11	52	c	Skegness	1.7	-	5	41	c
Hastings	-	0.32	6	43	c	Southend	-	X	6	43	r
Hayling I.	-	0.27	7	45	r	Southsea	-	0.20	7	45	c
Herne Bay	-	0.07	5	41	r	Stornoway	5.1	-	5	41	b
Hove	-	0.09	6	43	r	Swanage	-	0.06	6	43	d
Hunstanton	0.9	-	5	41	c	Teignmouth	-	0.09	7	45	du
Kinloss	2.2	0.01	7	45	c	Tiree	6.0	-	7	45	s
Leeds	0.5	0.03	4	39	sh	Torquay	-	0.09	8	46	c
Lerwick	2.1	0.01	3	37	sn	Tynemouth	1.0	0.02	5	41	c
Leuchars	0.7	-	5	41	sh	Ventnor	-	0.22	6	43	du
Littlehmptn	-	0.23	6	43	sh	Weymouth	-	0.02	7	45	c

ABROAD

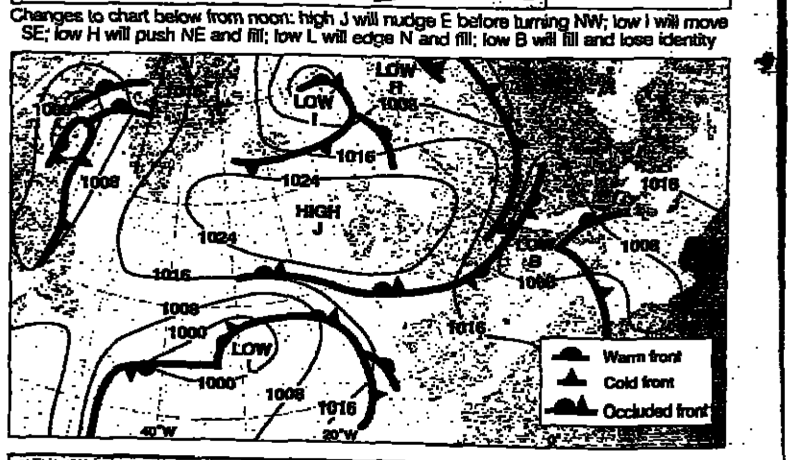
Ajaccio	19	66	f	C'phagn	4	39	s	Malaga	19	66	f	S Paulo	28	82	f
Akrotiri	16	61	f	Dublin	5	41	d	Malta	18	64	s	Salzburg	10	50	c
Alex'dria	16	61	c	Dubrovnik	12	54	f	Melb'rne	27	81	s	Santiago	17	63	c
Algiers	20	68	f	Faro	19	66	c	Mexico C	21	70	s	Seoul	9	48	s
Amst'dm	11	52	s	Florence	15	59	f	Miami	25	77	f	Sing'por	33	91	f
Athens	14	57	f	Frankfurt	12	54	s	Milan	12	54	c	St'kholm	5	41	s
B Aires	27	81	s	Funchal	18	64	f	Montreal	15	59	X	Strasb'rg	16	61	s
Bahrain	26	79	f	Geneva	17	63	s	Moscow	4	39	s	Sydney	25	77	f
Bangkok	34	93	f	Gibraltar	19	66	f	Munich	11	52	f	Tangier	19	66	s
Barbados	29	84	f	Helsinki	4	39	s	N Delhi	29	84	s	Tel Aviv	10	50	f
Barcelona	16	61	f	Hong K	25	77	c	N York	13	55	s	Tenerife	23	73	f
Beirut	15	59	s	Innsbrck	15	59	s	Nairobi	X			Tokyo	11	52	c
Belgrade	11	52	c	Istanbul	8	46	f	Naples	16	61	f	Toronto	10	50	r
Berlin	3	37	c	Jeddah	27	81	s	Nice	16	61	f	Tunis	25	77	s
Bermuda	18	64	f	Jo'burg	23	73	s	Oslo	3	37	s	Valencia	18	64	f
Biarritz	22	72	s	Karachi	X			Paris	15	59	s	Vanc'ver	7	45	s
Bordo'x	22	72	f	L Angels	18	64	f	Peking	14	57	f	Venice	12	54	f
Brussels	11	52	s	L Palmas	22	72	c	Perth	25	77	f	Vienna	7	45	c
Budapst	10	50	c	Le Touqet	11	52	f	Prague	5	41	c	Warsaw	5	41	f
Cairo	17	63	f	Lisbon	17	63	f	Reykjavik	2	36	f	Wash'ton	21	70	f
Cape Tn	24	75	s	Locarno	X			Rhodes	X			Wel'ngton	17	63	s
Ch'church	20	68	s	Luxembg	13	55	s	Rio de J	32	90	s	Zurich	11	52	c
Chicago	-3	27	sn	Luxor	22	72	s	Riyadh	28	82	f				
Cologne	12	54	s	Madrid	18	64	f	Rome	17	63	f				
Corfu	15	59	f	Majorca	18	64	f	S Fr'isco	12	54	c				

Temperatures at midday local time on Monday. X = not available

©TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1996. Published and printed and licensed for distribution in electronic and all other derivative forms by Times Newspapers Ltd, PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London E1 9XY, telephone 0171-782 5000 and also printed at Kirkby Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HN, telephone 0151-546 2000. Wednesday, March 27, 1996. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.



Changes to chart below from noon: high J will nudge E before turning NW; low I will move SE; low H will push NE and fill; low L will edge N and fill; low B will fill and lose identity



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6:33	6.1	6:53	5.9	Leith	8:02	4.3	8:50	4.2
Aberdeen	6:36	3.4	7:30	3.2	Liverpool	4:03	7.5	4:40	7.1
Avonmouth	11:52	9.8	-	-	Lowestoft	2:56	2.0	3:16	2.0
Belfast	4:28	3.1	5:04	2.8	Margate	5:09	4.0	5:33	3.8
Cardiff	11:51	9.2	-	-	Milford Haven	11:25	5.1	11:50	5.1
Devonport	10:22	4.2	10:49	4.3	Newquay	10:38	4.8	11:19	4.8
Dover	4:13	5.4	4:51	5.3	Oban	10:50	2.7	11:04	2.8
Dublin (N Wall)	5:08	3.3	5:52	3.1	Penzance	10:00	4.2	10:36	4.2
Falmouth	10:43	3.8	11:23	4.0	Portland	11:10	1.2	11:23	1.3
Greenock	5:20	3.1	5:58	2.8	Portsmouth	4:06	3.8	4:50	3.7
Harwich	4:39	3.3	5:01	3.2	Shoreham	4:05	4.8	4:55	4.7
Holyhead	3:20	4.4	4:11	4.2	Southampton	3:40	3.7	4:19	3.6
Hull (Albert D)	11:02	5.8	11:47	5.4	Swansea	11:22	7.1	11:48	7.0
Ilfracombe	11:05	6.9	11:33	6.8	Tees	9:11	4.2	9:46	4.1
King's Lynn	11:51	4.8	-	-	Walton-on-Naze	4:30	3.5	4:48	3.4

Crown copyright reserved. All times GMT. Heights in metres.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: St Mary's, Isles of Scilly, 10C (50F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 3C (37F); highest rainfall: Beaufort Park, Berkshire, 0.54in; highest sunshine: Tiree, Hebrides, 6hr

The outlook in Bermuda is heavenly.

For our 1996 brochure, call Bermuda Tourism on 01753 517 517 quoting ref: TWS or see your travel agent.

HOMES 34

Swapping suburbia for a cold family manor

ARTS 37-39

Are we forgetting the genius of Samuel Beckett?

SPORT 43-48

Ferdinand sent on the attack for England

TELEVISION AND RADIO
Pages 46, 47

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY MARCH 27 1996

Sir Rocco adds to his team

SIR ROCCO FORTE yesterday signalled his continued interest in bidding for the luxury hotel chain he lost to Granada by appointing a finance director to his acquisition team (Eric Reguly writes).

He is David Pascall, 47, who was finance director of the money and securities broking arm of MAI, the financial services and media company that recently agreed to merger with United News and Media.

Mr Pascall is Sir Rocco's third appointment. The others are David Stevens, the former legal director of the Forte hotels group, who is now Sir Rocco's commercial director, and Richard Power, Forte's former communications director, who is director of business support on the new team.

The group is to bid for the chain of Meridien and Exclusive hotels.

MARTIN BEDDALL

Lord Sterling said the aim was to raise returns to in excess of 15 per cent over three years and businesses unable to reach the target would be shed

P&O to raise £1bn via sales

By Carl Mortished

P&O, the shipping, construction and property group, plans to raise up to £1 billion over the next three years. P&O plans to float Bovis Homes, the housebuilding division, next year and £500 million will be shed from the group's huge investment property portfolio before the end of 1998. Further funds are expected to be released from P&O's bulk shipping business.

The surprise disposals announcement came as P&O revealed a fall in pre-tax profits from £349 million to £320 million including a sharp decline in profits from P&O Containers and the cross-channel ferries business which is suffering from the impact of Eurotunnel. The dividend is held at 30.5p for the year.

Lord Sterling, P&O's chairman, yesterday said the company should be able to meet all its capital expenditure needs and pay an increasing dividend from its businesses. To achieve that, he said the return on capital would have to be raised from last year's level of 11 per cent. "We want a return on capital employed across our operating divisions in excess of 15 per cent," he said.

Lord Sterling said the aim was to raise the return over three years and businesses unable to reach the target would be shed. He said that consolidation in the container shipping market would help P&O, but added: "The return from containers is totally inadequate. If we cannot see a way to get an acceptable return , it will leave the group," he said.

P&O is expected to ask the Government for release from undertakings not to collaborate with competitors on cross Channel ferry routes. Lord Sterling said there was no longer justification for them with Eurotunnel controlling half of the market. Profits at P&O Ferries fell from £114 million to £75 million in 1995.

Tempus, page 28

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3660.9	(-21.0)
Yield	4.05%	
FT-SE A All share	1826.17	(-7.64)
Nikkei	21014.77	(+99.33)
New York:		
Dow Jones	5648.56	(+4.70)*
S&P Composite	651.81	(+1.77)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 1/4%*	(5 5/16%)
Long Bond	91 21/32*	(92 15/32)
Yield	6.62%*	(6.58%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6 1/32%	(6 1/32%)
Liffe long gilt future (Jun)	104 7/8	(105 1/4)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5240*	(1.5220)
London:		
$	1.5245	(1.5235)
DM	2.2518	(2.2525)
FFr	7.7060	(7.7135)
SFr	1.8187	(1.8168)
Yen	162.21	(161.79)
£ Index	83.2	(83.3)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.4765*	(1.4785)
FFr	5.0505*	(5.0615)
SFr	1.1923*	(1.1922)
Yen	106.35*	(106.17)
$ Index	96.7	(95.6)

Tokyo close Yen 106.30

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jun)	$18.75	($18.80)

GOLD

London close	$400.05	($398.15)

* denotes midday trading price

Slower growth

Britain's economy grew by 2.5 per cent in 1995, slightly slower than originally forecast, but the current account deficit widened far more than expected, according to official Central Statistical Office figures for the year. **Page 26**

Mapping out

Charter, the industrial products company, said it was seeking a big acquisition of what it described as a "market-leading industrial business" for about £250 million. The company has looked at a number of options. **Page 30. Tempus 28**

Share shop doors open for Railtrack sell-off

By Jonathan Prynn, Transport Correspondent

THE Government launched the first stock market privatisation of a nationalised industry for five years yesterday when 10,000 share shops began accepting registrations for the £1.8 billion flotation of Railtrack.

The sale, which represents the most important single component of rail privatisation, will transfer ownership of 10,000 route miles of track, 40,000 tunnels, viaducts and bridges and 2,500 stations to the private sector. The flotation will take place in the first half of May.

The last stock market sale of a state-owned industry was in 1991 when the electricity generators were sold. Since then, privatisation issues have been of regionally based companies or of second and third tranches of shares in companies already largely in the private sector such as British Telecom.

The pathfinder prospectus will be published on April 15. About five million pamphlets giving basic information about the company have been sent to households that registered for previous privatisations.

The £5 million advertising and marketing campaign for the sale is being kept low key because the Government's advisers believe that the public is now highly familiar with the privatisation process.

They also fear there will only be limited enthusiasm for the sale from the public because of the complex structure of of rail privatisation and have deliberately pitched the campaign more at experienced investors.

James Sassoon, managing director of SBC Warburg, which has been advising the Government on the sale, said:"It's now very easy, you don't have to think very much about how and where to register for shares. There's nothing new, it's simple, you just have to go along to your high street share shop."

About a third of the Railtrack shares are expected to be offered to private investors, with the remainder sold to City and international instititutions in the flotation.

Pennington 27

Investors will be able to take up their allocation in two tranches, with a maximum application of up to about £700 to £800. Those who register with share shops will be entitled to discounts and other incentives on their second tranche allocation. SBC Warburg has signed up 110 banks, building societies, brokers and other intermediaries to accept registrations for the privatisation. There will be no central share information office as in previous privatisations.

Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, said: "With the share shop network in place and with registration now under way, we are confident the broad structure of the offer which we have outlined today will help attract a strong level of interest from retail investors across the country."

Brian Wilson, Labour's railway spokesman, said: "Investors should understand that this is a high-risk bet in every sense of that term."

He added: "Railtrack is wholly dependent for profitability on political decisions about the level of subsidies. It is also a company which commands minimal confidence or respect on the basis of its performance so far. People will not be in a position to complain if they dabble in this flotation and then get their fingers burnt."

Labour is expected to announce later this week whether it would renationalise Railtrack.

Railtrack made a pre-tax profit of £98 million in the six months to end-September last year on turnover of £1.14 billion. It has had about £1 billion of government debt written off, leaving it with borrowings of about £600 million. Its flotation value is expected to place it on the brink of the FT-SE 100.

M&S plans to open in Australia

MARKS & SPENCER plans to open 18 stores in Australia, with the first outlet trading by Christmas 1997 (Rachel Bridge writes from Sydney). M&S is now searching in key retail centres, including Sydney and Melbourne, and is conducting detailed research into the market.

It is understood M&S is looking for small retail outlets of up to 2,500 square metres, compared with its UK stores of up to 20,000 square metres. Planned total investment could aproach A$200 million (£101.5 million).

A spokesman for Marks & Spencer in London said: "When we research a new market we research it thoroughly and we are in the middle of that process."

Halifax plans big giveaway

By Robert Miller

HALIFAX, the UK's largest building society, yesterday confirmed that it is on course to become one of the country's top 20 companies with a valuation of about £10 billion when it makes its stock market debut in the summer of 1997.

About nine million qualifying savers and borrowers can now expect to receive an average of at least £600 worth of free shares. The special general meeting for members to approve the conversion to banking status should take place next February.

Mike Blackburn, chief executive of the Halifax, which yesterday reported a 13 per cent rise in annual profits to £1.1 billion, said: "We will have the largest shareholder register in the UK and this is possibly the biggest giveaway in terms of value in the history of the world."

Blackburn: £10bn value

Mr Blackburn said that over the next couple of years the Halifax, which has a 19 per cent share of the UK mortgage market on net lending of £2.9 billion, would seek to increase the group's income from non-mortgage business. Monday's announcement of the society's proposed £800 million takeover of Clerical Medical, the insurer, was part of a strategy to increase market share in pensions, new life and unit trust business and possibly long-term health care policies.

Administrative expenses rose to £968.9 million from £780.6 million in 1994, reflecting the enlarged group after the merger with the Leeds Permanent Building Society last August. A further £112 million was set aside as an exceptional item.

Mr Blackburn now believes that the 1996 Halifax housing market forecast for house prices to rise 2 per cent and transactions 10 per cent may be on the conservative side.

Pennington, page 27
City Diary, page 29

MPs say jobless data is inadequate

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

THE monthly unemployment figures are a "completely inadequate" measure of the number of people out of work, an all-party committee of MPs said yesterday as it called on ministers to publish a much wider range of job figures.

Ministers are studying Central Statistical Office proposals to add a survey-based measure of unemployment to its monthly count of people out of work and claiming benefit, and the Commons Employment Select Committee yesterday said that a monthly survey would improve the current method.

In its final report after being wound up following the merger of the education and employment departments, the Tory-dominated employment committee said that, although the monthly claimant count is useful, it should not have been allowed to become the only measure of unemployment. Because a claimant count is subject to changes in the social security system, it was an "unsatisfactory" measure.

The MPs supported a CSO proposal that ministers introduce, alongside the claimant count, a monthly version of the unemployment measure in the Government's quarterly *Labour Force Survey* — a sample of 60,000 households that produces internationally recognised data, — and that a range of *LFS* data be issued.

WALTONS & MORSE
INSURANCE TEAM
TO JOIN EVERSHEDS

For further information
please contact Peter Scott,
Managing Partner,
Eversheds London
Tel: 0171 919 4500

EVERSHEDS
The Business Lawyers

Barclay Brothers seek more room at the top

By Eric Reguly

Putting on the Ritz? Inside 22 Arlington Street

THE Barclay brothers, the reclusive identical twins who own the Ritz Hotel in London, have offered to buy the historic William Kent house that stands next to the Ritz. It is thought they would like to use the mansion to increase the hotel's capacity.

Eagle Star, the insurance group owned by BAT Industries, has rejected the approach.

The property was not officially for sale and the brothers' offering price was not high enough to convince Threadneedle Property, the BAT division that manages the house for Eagle Star, to recommend acceptance.

The brothers, who also own the *Scotsman* and *European* newspapers, never comment to the press and it is not known whether they are considering a higher price.

The Barclays bought the Ritz last October from Trafalgar House for £75 million. The 90-year-old property has 130 bedrooms, making it relatively small by five-star hotel standards, but has planning permission for 23 extra rooms.

With little space left in the Ritz, the Barclays have been looking for a neighbouring property.

The William Kent house, whose address is 22 Arlington Street, was designed by William Kent, a pioneer in Neo-Palladianism and an instigator of the Gothic Revival, in 1740. It was occupied over the centuries by a succession of grandees, starting with Henry Pelham, who was to become Prime Minister.

The house, which is best known for its salon, hung with crimson damask and consisting of mythological figures, is considered one of the finest interiors in London.

Eagle Star bought William Kent house for £250,000 just after the Second World War, and now uses it for conferences, corporate entertainment and as its West End offices.

The company would not reveal its estimate for the house's current value.

Old-style names put demands to Lloyd's

By Sarah Bagnall

THE dwindling ranks of traditional names at Lloyd's of London are demanding a bill of rights to prevent discrimination and to give protection similar to that of shareholders in listed companies.

Names' representatives fear that traditional names will be sidelined and disadvantaged by actions of managing agents in the future. That is assuming that names accept a £2.8 billion settlement package.

The Association of Lloyds' Members and the High Premium Group, two influential bodies, have drawn up a bill of rights that is to be put to the insurance market's regulatory board. The six-point bill has been compiled with the support of two leading members' agencies, Willis Faber & Dumas and Christie Brockbank Shipton.

Christie's managing director, Charles Harbord-Hamond, said: "This is the first real test of the new regulatory regime to see wether the interests of names are protected rather than the preferences of the managing agents."

The names are concerned that some managing agents are able to benefit from insider knowledge. The names' bill of rights also demands that mergers of a syndicate require approval by a majority of names and that managing agents should no longer be allowed to reject, for no reason, a name's request to join a syndicate. Names want to ensure they have equal rights to subscribe for syndicate vacancies.

If their demands are not met, the names plan to introduce a resolution at Lloyd's annual meeting, on July 15.

UK economy grew 2.5% during 1995

By Janet Bush, Economics Correspondent

THE British economy grew by 2.5 per cent last year, slightly less than 2.6 per cent previously estimated, while the current account deficit widened by far more than expected, largely due to record payments to the European Union, according to figures released by the Central Statistical Office.

Growth in gross domestic product was left unchanged from the most recent estimate at 0.5 per cent but there were revisions to the past year's data. Most notable of these was news that investment, far from rising 1.2 per cent, actually fell 0.7 per cent in 1995.

More surprising still is the fact that the savings ratio has risen in the last two quarters. The CSO had previously estimated that the savings ratio had fallen sharply in the third quarter to 8.6 from the 9.5 level recorded in the second and 10.1 in the first quarter of 1995. But the updated figures showed the savings ratio rose to 10.4 in the third quarter and to 10.5 in the fourth.

This suggests that, far from becoming more confident, consumers were, if anything, becoming more cautious as last year wore on. Yesterday's figures also contained downward revisions to consumer spending last year. Taking the fourth quarter 1995 against a year earlier, the latest estimate shows spending up 2.2 per cent against 2.5 per cent previously reported.

Consumer spending was up only 0.5 per cent in the final quarter. Jonathan Loynes of HSBC Markets said that the authorities will be hoping for much stronger consumer activity this year if they are to get anywhere near their 3 per cent growth forecast.

Other economists, however, saw some potentially bullish news for spending in yesterday's figures with a rise of 1.2 per cent in total personal disposable income in the final quarter of the year. Economists argued that this bodes well for the coming year.

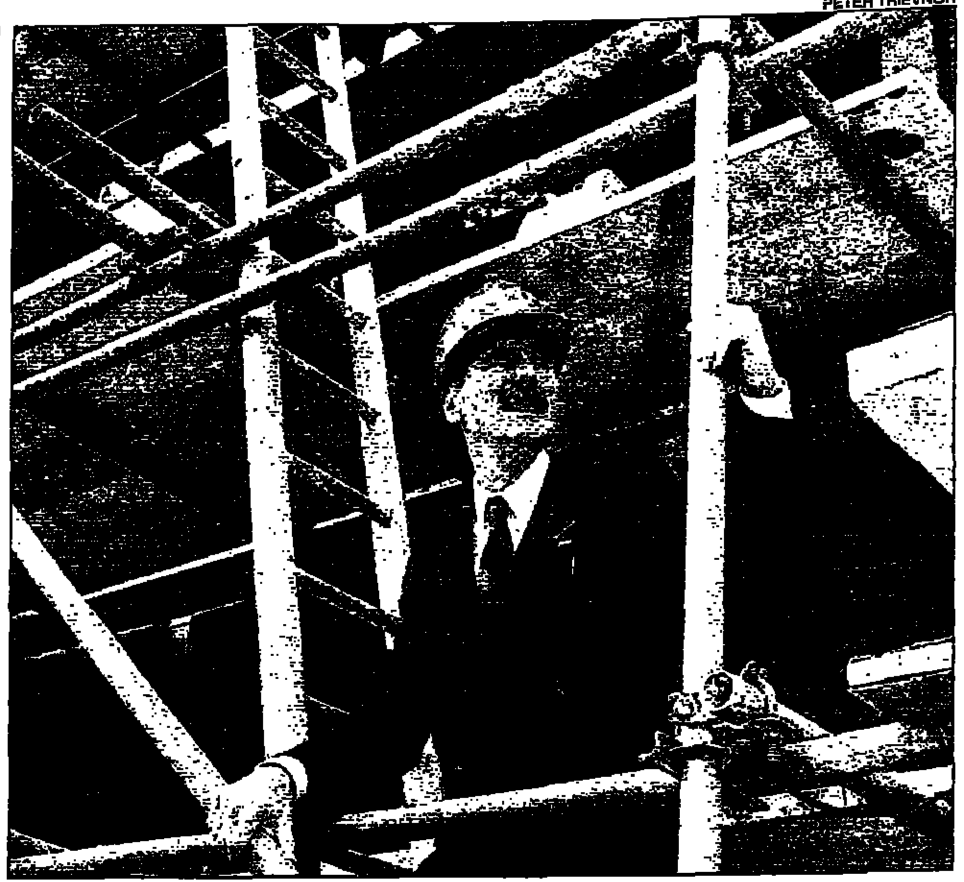
Downward revisions in consumer spending, investment and service sector output were partially offset by an upward revision in exports. Separate figures showed that the current account deficit widened sharply to £6.67 billion in 1995, more than three times the £2.08 billion recorded in 1994 but well below the £11 billion deficit in 1993.

During the fourth quarter, the current account gap was £1.8 billion compared with £2.1 billion in the third quarter and City expectations of a deficit of £1 billion. This was largely because of lower than expected invisible earnings which in turn came about because transfers to EU institutions hit a record of £2.5 billion in the fourth quarter.

Britain's visible trade was in deficit to the tune of £2.8 billion in the fourth quarter compared with £3.6 billion in the third quarter.

Michael Saunders, United Kingdom economist at Salomon Brothers, said that, as long as transfers to the EU fall back to more normal levels, he would expected a current account deficit this year of £3 billion or less.

PETER TRIEVNOR



Colin Parsons, Taylor Woodrow's chairman, plans quality rather than quantity

Taylor Woodrow lifts payout

By Christine Buckley

TAYLOR WOODROW, the construction and property group, underlined an optimism for the future with a 50 per cent increase in its final dividend. The company reported a drop in pre-tax profits from £50.8 million to £46 million, after a £8.5 million restructuring charge and reduced profits from Eurotunnel units. But it lifted the final dividend, payable on July 1, to 2.25p from 1.5p, making a total of 3p.

Colin Parsons, chairman, said that the group's confidence sprung from wide exposure to overseas markets and the opportunity to reap rewards from its streamlining in the UK over the past year. In the UK, where the company emphasised that the need to restore construction to profitability is paramount, the company plans to sharpen its focus and bid only for projects carrying a substantial profit margin. Mr Parsons said: "We intend to go for quality rather than quantity."

There will also be a shake-up of the company's £450 million worth of property investment with much earmarked for disposal. The company remained subdued on the housing market, after the average price of its houses fell from £82,000 last year to £74,500.

Tempus, page 28

Bankers driven to risk new crisis

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

BANKERS fear they are being driven by intense competition to take unacceptable risks that will trigger the next banking crisis. According to comments made by 170 of the world's bankers, regulators and analysts, there is such high overcapacity that banks are under pressure to take risks to protect market share.

Over half the respondents to a study into "banking banana skins" by the Centre for the Study of Financial Innovation published today identified over-aggressive management, bad lending, slack internal controls, unwise diversification, and an obsession with size rather than profitability."

John Melbourn, deputy chief executive of NatWest, said the price of credit was "now being dictated by what the market will bear rather than by the credit risk." Other banking heads said global banks were continuing to "drive for market share regardless of cost."

Tim Congdon, the economist of Lombard Street Research, thought excessive capital would tempt banks "into new activities which they do not fully understand, notably insurance, fund management, and capital market activities including securities and derivatives."

Pennington, page 27

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.06	1.90
Austria Sch	16.83	15.33
Belgium Fr	49.21	44.91
Canada $	2.180	2.020
Cyprus Cyp£	0.747	0.692
Denmark Kr	9.30	8.50
Finland Mkk	7.57	6.92
France Fr	8.11	7.46
Germany Dm	2.40	2.19
Greece Dr	387.00	362.00
Hong Kong $	12.41	11.41
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1100	4.4600
Italy Lira	2479.00	2324.00
Japan Yen	175.70	159.70
Malta	0.569	0.534
Netherlds Gld	2.670	2.440
New Zealand $	2.37	2.15
Norway Kr	10.37	9.57
Portugal Esc	243.50	225.00
S Africa Rd	6.53	5.73
Spain Pta	195.00	183.00
Sweden Kr	10.70	9.90
Switzerland Fr	1.96	1.77
Turkey Lira	111125.	103125.
USA $	1.619	1.489

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Orange shares ten times oversubscribed

THE initial public offering of shares in Orange, the third largest mobile phone operator, was ten times oversubscribed yesterday, meaning it will be sold this morning at the top end of the indicated price range. Orange said last month that the price per share would range from 175p to 205p, valuing the company between £2.2 billion and £2.45 billion.

Orange, is owned by Hutchison Whampoa of Hong Kong and British Aerospace. Early indications were that 30,000 investors had agreed to make the £1,000 minimum investment. If demand for the shares remains strong in the aftermarket, Goldman Sachs and Kleinwort Benson, the underwriters, are likely to exercise their option to sell some or all of their "over-allotment" of 49 million Orange shares next week.

Carnegie plans trusts

JP CARNEGIE, the Edinburgh asset management company, said that it intended to launch ten branded Carnegie Building Societies Investment Trusts, which will invest in permanent interest bearing shares issued by building societies. The size of the issue, sponsored by Société Générale Strauss Turnbull, is restricted to £30 million. The underlying trust portfolios may also include other high-yielding debt securities and shares of successor companies of building societies. **Tempus, page 28**

Shake-up helps Camas

CAMAS, the building materials group, started to see the benefits of substantial trimming of costs and a drive on margins with a 26 per cent improvement in pre-tax profits in 1995. But the company, which made profits before tax of £24.1 million (£19.2 million), said that this year would prove difficult in UK construction. The final dividend, payable on July 1, was set at 2.5p which takes the total to 3.75p, maintaining the previous year's amount.

Photronics chooses UK

MORE than 250 jobs are to be created by a leading American electronics company, which is locating its European headquarters in Britain. Photronics announced that it will site a new factory at Trafford Park, Manchester, with the help of a £1.8 million grant from the Government. The plant will manufacture photomasks, a component that is used in the production of semi-conductor chips.

Wolstenholme rises

WOLSTENHOLME RINK, the supplier of products for the print industry, achieved a 23 per cent rise in profits to £7.5 million before tax in 1995. Earnings were 65p a share, compared with 52.4p. The final dividend of 15p a share lifts the total to 24p, an increase of 16 per cent. Turnover of £75.8 million compared with £65.6 million previously. The company said there were signs that demand in some important markets is slowing.

US rates unchanged

AMERICA'S Federal Reserve yesterday left interest rates unchanged amid signs that the economy is springing back from a mid-winter slowdown. The decision had been expected and left the key federal funds rate that commercial banks charge each other for overnight money unchanged at 5.25 per cent. After faltering in January, the economy picked up steam last month as consumer spending rebounded, industrial production boomed and housing starts increased.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

ROBECO GROUP

ROBECO N.V.

(investment company with a variable capital)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

to be held on Friday, 26th April, 1996, at Concert and Congress building "de Doelen", entrance Kruisplein 30, Rotterdam, at 9.30 hours.

AGENDA

1. Opening
2. To receive and adopt the Report of the Management Board for the financial year 1995
3. To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts for the financial year 1995
4. To determine the appropriation of the profit
5. To compose the Board of Supervisory Directors
6. To compose the Board of Directors
7. Any other business

ROLINCO N.V.

(investment company with a variable capital)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

to be held on Friday, 26th April, 1996, at Concert and Congress building "de Doelen", entrance Kruisplein 30, Rotterdam, at 11.45 hours.

AGENDA

1. Opening
2. To receive and adopt the Report of the Management Board for the financial year 1995
3. To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts for the financial year 1995
4. To determine the appropriation of the profit
5. To compose the Board of Supervisory Directors
6. To compose the Board of Directors
7. Any other business

Copies of the full agendas and of the Annual Reports for 1995 can be obtained from National Westminster Bank PLC, NatWest Investments, Centralised Securities Office, Basement, Juno Court, 24 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB or Robeco U.K. Limited, 4 Carlos Place, Mayfair, London W1Y 5AE. Telephone: 0171-409 3507.

Holders of Bearer Share Certificates desirous of attending or being represented at the Meeting, should lodge their Certificates by hand (postal deliveries will not be accepted for voting purposes) with the National Westminster Bank PLC, NatWest Investments, Centralised Securities Office, Basement, Juno Court, 24 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB (between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.) in exchange for a receipt, not later than Friday, 19th April, 1996.

Beneficial owners whose Bearer Share Certificates are presently deposited with a Bank must obtain a Certificate of Deposit signed by the Bank as evidence that such Bank is holding the Certificates. The Certificate of Deposit must be lodged against receipt, by that Bank, with the National Westminster Bank PLC, in accordance with the requirements stated above.

The receipt for Bearer Share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit will constitute evidence of a shareholder's entitlement to attend and vote at the Meeting and should be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall. If a holder desires to appoint a proxy, who need not be a member of the Company, to attend and vote in his stead, a form of proxy may be obtained from the National Westminster Bank PLC as above and this form of proxy must be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt for the Bearer Share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit.

Beneficial owners of Sub-share Certificates registered in the name of National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited desirous of attending or being represented at the Meeting must obtain a receipt or Certificate of Deposit in the same way as holders of Bearer Share Certificates. If they desire to attend the Meeting in person or to be represented they must obtain a form of proxy signed by National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited, which form must be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt exchanged for the Sub-share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit.

Beneficial owners of Sub-shares registered in any name other than that of National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited, holders of Registered Full Shares and Shareholders who maintain a Shareholder's Account with the Company wishing to attend and vote at the Meeting or to appoint a proxy to attend and vote in their stead, must signify their intention in writing to the Secretary of Robeco N.V. or Rolinco N.V. (whichever is applicable), Coolsingel 120, NL-3011 AG Rotterdam, Netherlands to arrive not later than Friday, 19th April, 1996.

Service contracts are not entered into with the Directors, who hold office in accordance with the Articles of Association.

BY ORDER OF THE MANAGEMENT

ROTTERDAM

Dated this 27th day of March, 1996

RORENTO N.V.

(investment company with a variable capital)

INFORMATIVE MEETING FOR SHAREHOLDERS

to be held on Friday, 26th April, 1996, at Concert and Congress building "de Doelen", entrance Kruisplein 30, Rotterdam, at 14.30 hours.

AGENDA

1. Opening
2. To discuss the Report of the Management Board for the financial year 1995
3. To discuss the Annual Accounts for the financial year 1995
4. To discuss the appropriation of the profit
5. To discuss the remuneration of Supervisory Directors
6. To discuss the composition of the Board of Supervisory Directors
7. To discuss the composition of the Board of Directors
8. Any other business

RORENTO N.V.

(investment company with a variable capital)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

to be held on Monday, 29th April, 1996, at the offices of Robeco Antillen N.V., Pietermaai 24, Willemstad, Curaçao (Netherlands Antilles), at 10.30 hours

AGENDA

1. Opening
2. To receive and adopt the Report of the Management Board for the financial year 1995
3. To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts for the financial year 1995
4. To determine the appropriation of the profit
5. To determine the remuneration of Supervisory Directors
6. To compose the Board of Supervisory Directors
7. To compose the Board of Directors
8. Any other business

Holders of Bearer Share Certificates desirous of attending or being represented at the above stated Meetings, should lodge their Share Certificates by hand (postal deliveries will not be accepted) with the National Westminster Bank PLC, NatWest Investments, Centralised Securities Office, Basement, Juno Court, 24 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB (between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.) as follows: INFORMATIVE MEETING - NOT LATER THAN FRIDAY, 19TH APRIL, 1996. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - NOT LATER THAN MONDAY, 22ND APRIL, 1996, IN EXCHANGE FOR A RECEIPT.

Beneficial owners whose Share Certificates are presently deposited with a Bank must obtain a Certificate of Deposit signed by the Bank as evidence that such Bank is holding the Share Certificates. This Certificate must be lodged against receipt, by that Bank, with the National Westminster Bank PLC, in accordance with the requirements stated above.

The receipt for the Share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit will constitute evidence of a shareholder's entitlement to attend and vote at the Meeting and should be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall. If a holder desires to appoint a proxy, who need not be a member of the Company, to attend and vote in his stead, a form of proxy may be obtained from the National Westminster Bank PLC as above and this form of proxy must be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt for the Share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit.

Shareholders who maintain a Shareholder's Account with the Company, wishing to attend either or both Meetings or to appoint a proxy in their stead, must signify their intention in writing to the Secretary, Rorento N.V. c/o Avirento B.V., Coolsingel 120, NL-3011 AG Rotterdam, Netherlands to arrive not later than the dates indicated above.

Although proxies may attend, votes will not be cast at the Informative Meeting.

Copies of the full agendas and of the Annual Report for 1995 can be obtained from National Westminster Bank PLC at the address shown above or Robeco U.K. Limited, 4 Carlos Place, Mayfair, London W1Y 5AE. Tel: 0171-409 3507.

Service contracts are not entered into with the Directors, who hold office in accordance with the Articles of Association.

BY ORDER OF THE MANAGEMENT

ST. MAARTEN

Dated this 27th day of March 1996.

The right line for Railtrack Registration.

The Railtrack Share Offer is now open for registration.

You can phone us to register on 0990 600 600, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week or call into any NatWest branch.

Register now. It's the priority route.

Call 0990 600 600
24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Share Shop

RAILTRACK Share Offer

NatWest
More than just a bank

This advertisement is issued by, and is the responsibility solely of, National Westminster Bank Plc, which is acting as a Share Shop in relation to the Railtrack Share Offer. A Share Shop making an application for Shares on your behalf in the Offer will be acting as your agent and has no authority to act for the Secretary of State for Transport or any other person. Shares will be sold by the Secretary of State for Transport in the Offer solely on the basis of information contained in the Prospectus to be issued in connection with the Offer. Individuals who register with, and duly apply through, a Share Shop in the UK Public Offer will receive greater preference in allocation, on a basis to be determined, than members of the public who do not register with and apply through a Share Shop, if there is a heavy demand for Shares. The value of shares, and the income from them, may go down as well as up, and you may not recover the amount of your original investment. Share dealing services are provided by NatWest Stockbrokers Limited, which is a Member of the London Stock Exchange and regulated by the Securities and Futures Authority. National Westminster Bank Plc is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO. Registrants may also receive marketing literature relating to NatWest's share dealing services. National Westminster Bank Plc. Registered Number 929027, England. Registered Office: 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP.

Ref No: 02010

☐ Tracking the numbers, Labour allowing ☐ Red card for football shares ☐ Whence the next financial crisis?

Fudge on the line

☐ SOME time over the next few days, a couple of paragraphs of leaden prose will drop through the letterbox at the offices of SBC Warburg, in charge of the privatisation of Railtrack. Until the postman calls, normal investment criteria do not apply to one of this year's two biggest stock market debuts.

The best indications are that Labour, pledged to insert a policy statement into the Railtrack prospectus, will go for a political fudge, something along the lines of "when appropriate, we might or might not pursue our goal of stealing the track and signals back from the people who own it."

This would be an act of moral cowardice that would disappoint many, inside and outside the City, who had hoped for better from New Labour. But take it as a *fait accompli*, and it does allow a few preliminary numbers to be done and a few assumptions to be made about the Railtrack sale.

Investors will want to know first, what sort of price they will be expected to put up, and second, what can go wrong with their investment thereafter. The price will reflect the dividend yield Railtrack's advisers think will be necessary to get the issue away, and how much higher this yield will have to be than that already on offer from existing privatised utilities.

The figures being worked on, all based on the financial year ending at the end of this week, allow comparison with two, the National Grid that was floated last year and BT, on the stock market for more than a decade.

Both yield approaching 7 per cent, high in stock market terms, because of the regulatory risks they face. BT is in open conflict with its regulator while the Grid, because of executive share options and other unpleasantness, is one of the bad boys in the utilities sector and may be heading for future grief.

Railtrack believes that while it must bear some political risk, the regulatory danger is slim: the restructured rail industry is held together by a network of contractual agreements between train operators, the Government and the regulator which would, legally, be the devil's work to unpick. The two balance out, assuming a Labour fudge, which suggests a similar yield to Grid and BT. Add on 10 to 15 per cent as a premium for investors and assume a 7 per cent dividend growth for the first year under private ownership, and the historic yield at flotation works out somewhere short of 7.5 per cent.

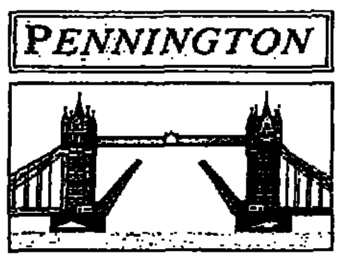
We shall see. As to what can go wrong, there would seem to be only one real risk, and that is if the new Railtrack bosses prove even more incompetent than British Rail. Widespread signal failure, say, and the company loses revenue from the train operators in the form of track access charges to the point, ultimately, that it would be unable to pay a dividend.

This would seem wildly improbable, even if much of the board are BR veterans. The only other possible risk comes from Labour. Over to you, Mr Blair.

Millwall *no match* for the Reds

IT WOULD probably have been a closer contest if Manchester United had met Millwall on a football pitch. But yesterday the two football clubs met as stock market rivals to produce results that were in different leagues.

United oozed Premiership class as the company more than doubled pre-tax half year profits to £15.2 million and raised the interim dividend to 1.6p, even if the club had, by its high standards, a poor start to the season. Millwall saw losses treble to £376,000 and no dividend, even though attendences were up.



United's success, coupled with a promising stock market performance of late by Tottenham Hotspur, has led other clubs to explore the idea of flotation. In recent months, Chelsea, Leeds, Arsenal, Aston Villa, even poor old West Bromwich Albion struggling in the Endsleigh League Division One, have expressed an interest in coming to the market.

But while United has become a reputable investment vehicle, even if one more geared to fashion retail than skill in the goal mouth, other football clubs may not be such a success — especially given the run of the play so far. Manchester United is a global brand name that gives the company a lead in the chase for sponsorship and marketing deals and allows the club to weather a bad year on the pitch. Competition from Nike for United's kit contract forced Umbro to bid the price up to around £60 million.

Most of the other big clubs rely on the financial contributions of a football crazy sugar-daddy, such as Sir John Hall at Newcastle and Jack Walker at Blackburn. Shareholders in quoted clubs will be less keen than they are for success at any price, especially if it starts to hit dividend payments.

Above all, the gap between football success and failure will always remain marginal. It only takes one dodgy refereeing decision or a changing room bust-up with the stroppy star striker to wreck the balance sheet. But the disregard shown by the fans for the financials will still drive the share price. Most football share certificates will always belong on the bedroom wall, with the season ticket, the kit and the autographed teamsheet.

Banking on the next disaster

☐ BANKERS, like First World War generals it seems, are still fighting the war before. A list of 50 terrible things that could go wrong soon, culled from a survey of bankers, regulators and other professionals, includes inadequate regulation," a rogue trader, electronic fraud and a Japanese financial crisis.

All this, after Barings, Nick Leeson, a $10 million computer theft from Citibank and the Daiwa scandal, suggests that the respondents at least read the news headlines. But their nomination for the biggest threat of all, the next runaway asteroid to splash down on the world banking system, does imply some degree of self-knowledge and wisdom — along with a chilling belief in the inevitability of the next banking disaster.

That threat, in the Centre for the Study of Financial Innovation's list of impending banana skins, is that over-capacity and thin margins require banks to do silly things to hold market share. "Unwise diversification, and an obsession with size rather than profitability" is a phrase that leaps out with a strangely 1980s air to it.

The worry is that while the majority of respondents think their industry is heading for disaster, each banker individually presumably thinks he or she is acting responsibly and in the interests of shareholders and account-holders. It is the other fellow who is getting it wrong.

No saving grace

☐ NOTABLE for its absence from Halifax's annual results yesterday was any comment on savings rates. Savers, forced to sit tight until they receive their payout after next year's conversion, are being kept in the dark. Will the recent cut in base rates force savings rates down, or will the Halifax, like its mutual rivals, absorb the cost and take the hit on its margins? A glance at the mortgage market might suggest the answer. The Nationwide, vociferously wedded to mutuality, will still be offering a cheaper mortgage than the Halifax when new rates come into effect on Monday.

UniChem vows to carry on buying

BY ERIC REGULY

UNICHEM, the drugs wholesaler and retailer, said that the monopolies referral of its £620 million bid for Lloyds Chemists will not deter it from growing by smaller acquisitions.

Jeffery Harris, chief executive, said that the company expects to buy out 50 or more independent pharmacists in 1996 and will pursue its European expansion strategy by forming joint ventures in the wholesale market. Pharmacies, he said, typically cost £400,000, and there are thousands from which to choose.

Mr Harris said that he expects the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to clear UniChem's bid for Lloyds, subject to a disposal of some, or all, of UniChem's wholesale business, and to clear the rival bid by Gehe of Germany. "We'll both come back to the match again," he said.

UniChem made pre-tax profits of £49.4 million for 1995, up 12.3 per cent. Turnover was £1.4 billion, up 5.9 per cent. Operating profits were £46.8 million, up 14 per cent. Earnings were 19p a share, against 18.8p. A 5.3p final dividend, up from 4.7p, makes 8p, up 12.2 per cent.

UAP INSURANCE

UAP PROVINCIAL

1995 Results

Strong financial performance

"Our excellent technical performance has produced a record profit underpinned by significant growth in assets and shareholders' funds resulting in a very strong balance sheet."

Tony Davidson
Managing Director

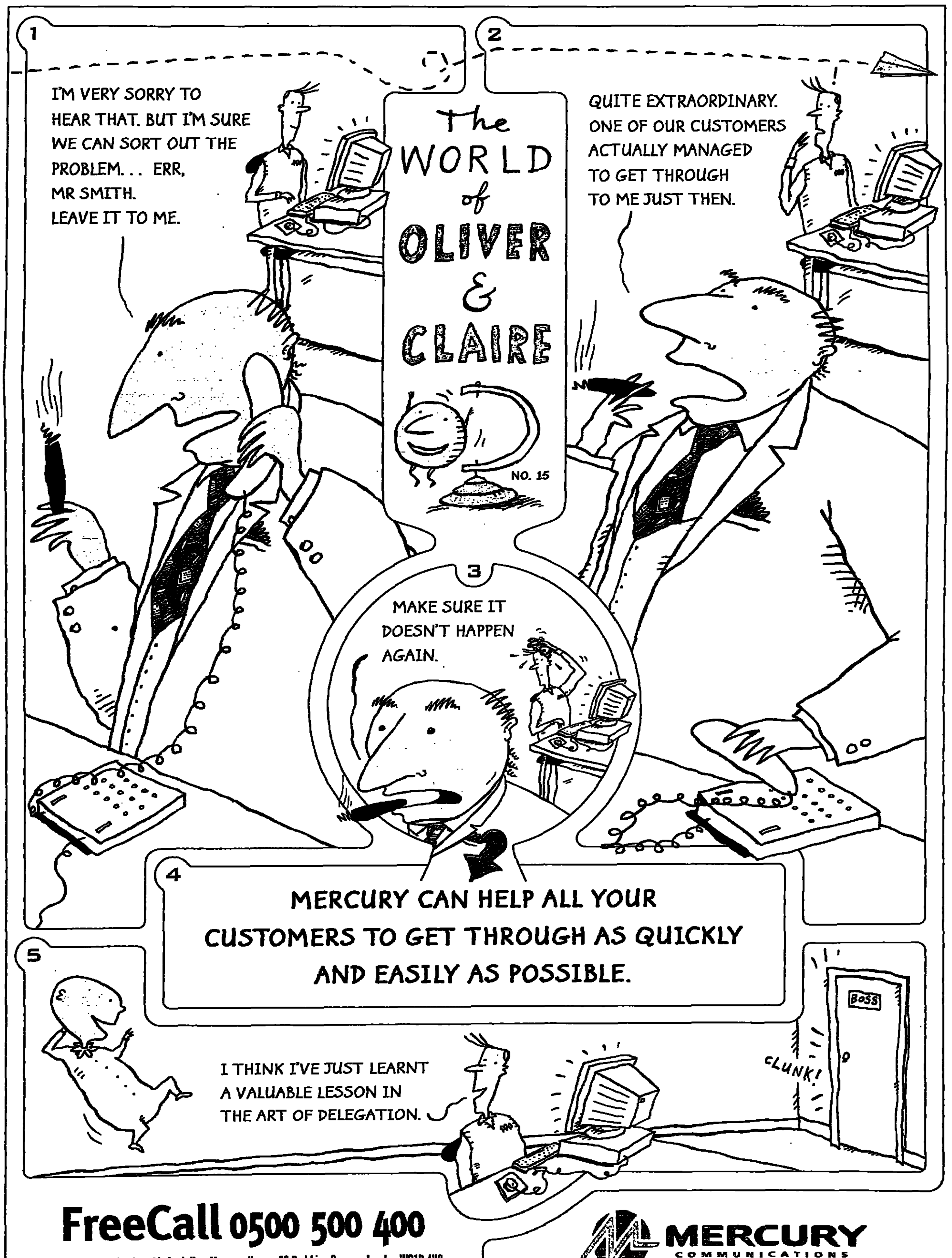
- Record Pre-Tax Profit £64.2m (1994 restated £59.5m)
- UK Net Premiums increased by 2% to £336.3m
- Total Assets exceed £1,000m
- Shareholders Funds increased by 39% to £254m
- Solvency Margin 73.6%
- Return on Capital 35.3%

UAP INSURANCE

UAP PROVINCIAL

UAP Provincial Insurance plc
Stramongate Kendal Cumbria LA9 4BE

Working together to create new horizons


1
I'M VERY SORRY TO HEAR THAT. BUT I'M SURE WE CAN SORT OUT THE PROBLEM... ERR, MR SMITH. LEAVE IT TO ME.
The WORLD of OLIVER & CLAIRE
NO. 15
2
QUITE EXTRAORDINARY. ONE OF OUR CUSTOMERS ACTUALLY MANAGED TO GET THROUGH TO ME JUST THEN.
3
MAKE SURE IT DOESN'T HAPPEN AGAIN.
4
MERCURY CAN HELP ALL YOUR CUSTOMERS TO GET THROUGH AS QUICKLY AND EASILY AS POSSIBLE.
5
I THINK I'VE JUST LEARNT A VALUABLE LESSON IN THE ART OF DELEGATION.
BOSS
CLUNK!

FreeCall 0500 500 400

Mercury Communications Limited, New Mercury House, 26 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4HQ.

http://www.mercury.co.uk

MERCURY COMMUNICATIONS

When mankind meets machine, Mercury can help.

A MEMBER OF THE CABLE & WIRELESS GROUP

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

City investors hit by another day of losses

AN EARLY sell-off of government bonds and the financial future set the seal on another day of losses for City investors.

Behind it all was the worsening crisis over BSE and the arguments about how to resolve the issue. Financial markets thrive on speculation, but are rarely able to cope with uncertainty. This was not the best backdrop for today's issue by the Bank of England of £3 billion of short-dated gilt stock.

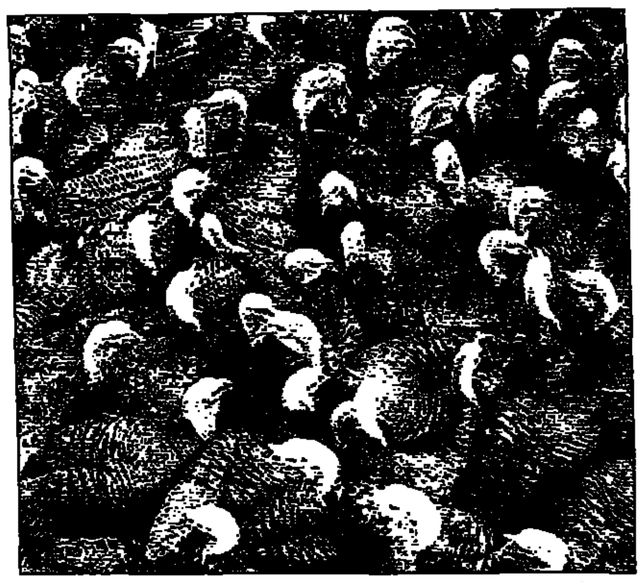
A hesitant start to trading in New York added to investors woes and left the FT-SE 100 index nursing a fall of 21.0 points at 3,660.9. That stretches the loss of the past two days to 46.1. A total of 822 million shares changed hands.

Glaxo Wellcome shrugged off an early fall prompted by the announcement that Astra, a rival, had been given the go-ahead to market prilosec, its anti-ulcer drug, in the US. There was also talk that Glaxo Wellcome was about to link-up with Pfizer, a US rival. Its shares closed 23½p dearer at 835½p. Glaxo denied the rumour.

Securicor continued to benefit from proposals to scrap the two-tier share structure and bring **Security Services**, its 50.75 per cent owned subsidiary, under one roof. The A shares surged a further 120p to £11.75, with the ordinary 218p dearer at £20.23. Security Services finished 118p higher at £11.68. Between them, the companies own a 40 per cent stake in Cellnet, the mobile telephone operator.

News of the restructuring at Securicor comes just days before the start of dealings in Orange, the rival mobile phone operator being floated by Hutchison Whampoa and **British Aerospace**, down 9p at 855p. Orange shares were offered in a range of between 175p and 205p. Last night, it was looking as though the issue had been more than six times oversubscribed. Dealing are expected to open at about the 230p level.

There was further heavy turnover in **Tomkins** as the price firmed another 2½p to 260p with 4.1 million shares traded. SBC Warburg and Goldman Sachs, the securities houses, are believed to have joined Kleinwort Benson and turned bullish of the stock after a period of underperformance. There has been talk that Greg Hutchings, chairman, is considering a share buy-back operation.



Profit-taking left Bernard Matthews, the turkey firm, 6p lower

A profits warning left **Filtronic Comtek** nursing a fall of 22p to 353p. Some of its biggest customers have been experiencing technical difficulties in the US developing code division multiple access systems for personal computers. The rescheduling of equipment orders worth $12 million means profits for the current year to May 31 are unlikely to significantly exceed the previous year.

Royal Bank of Scotland fell 12p to 504p, for a two-day loss of 18p, in the wake of a profits downgrading by one of its own brokers. Credit Lyonnais Laing has cut its estimate for the current year by £25 million to £605 million because it expects RBS's Direct Line insurance arm to deliver halved profits of £45 million.

Profit-taking left **Bernard Matthews**, the Norfolk turkey producer, 6p lower at 116p. The shares have risen almost 30p in the past week following the growing crisis over mad cow disease. But the dairy producers continued to lose ground, worried by the threat to slaughter dairy herds resulting in dearer imported milk. **Northern Foods** slipped a further 3p to 180p and **Unigate** was 7p off at 400p. **Sentry Farming** rallied 9p to 168p afer reassuring shareholders that events relating to BSE were unlikely to materially affect its profitability. Beef production accounted for just 1 per cent of turnover.

P&O responded to a promise by Lord Sterling, chairman, to obtain better returns for shareholders with a rise of 8p to 522p, after 540p. He plans to slim the group and raise more than £1 billion from the disposal of property and the demerger next year of Bovis, its construction business. He also refused to rule out the possibility of making a bid for Cunard, Trafalgar House's shipping line. News of the measures came as the group reported a drop in pre-tax profits last year from £349.5 million to £320.4 million.

An encouraging performance from **Taylor Woodrow** lifted the shares 11p to 149p. Pre-tax profits declined from £50.8 million to £46 million.

An impressive first-half performance by **Manchester United**, the Premier division title contender, was well received in the Square Mile, even though the shares finished 4p cheaper on the day at 282p.

Pre-tax profits more than doubled to £15.3 million, with the group generating £75,000 of merchandising income per game, compared with only £25,000 earlier in the season. This follows the near completion of the new stand at Old Trafford, which boosted spectator numbers above the original 30,000 total.

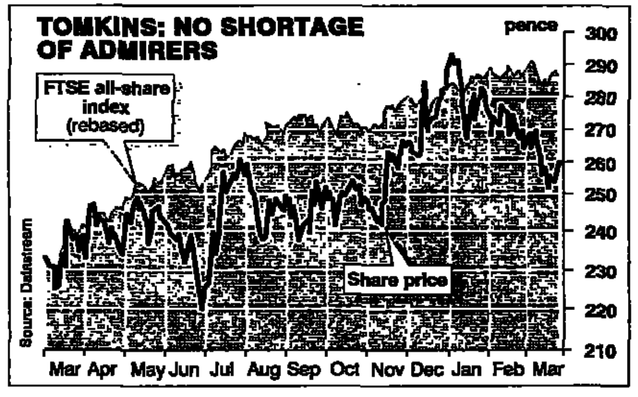
Further down the league tables, **Millwall**, the southeast London club, slipped ½p to 2¾p after plunging into the red in the first half. Pre-tax losses were £260,000, against a profit last time of £83,000. Money spent on new players and an early exit from cup competition were to blame.

Meggitt Holdings fell 9½p to 95p after plunging into the red last year with losses of £21.4 million against a profit of £14.8 million last time. Brokers have begun downgrading estimates for the current year amid worries about the fall in demand for electronic components in Europe.

☐ **GILT EDGED:** Prices suffered an early sell-off from which they never really recovered. Still overshadowed by the BSE scare and its possible impact on the PSBR, investors were in no mood to open fresh positions before3 today's auction of £3 billion Treasury 7 per cent 2001. As a result, turnover among shorter dated issues proved thin.

In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt fell £⅜ to £104⅞ as just 38,000 contracts were completed. Among conventional issues, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 lost £5/16 at £96 21/32, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was ¼ easier at £102 1/32.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street stocks were flat in early trading as little enthusiasm was generated by the Federal Reserve's widely expected decision to leave US monetary policy unchanged. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 4.70 at 5,648.56.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 5648.56 (+4.70)
S&P Composite .... 651.81 (+1.77)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .... 21014.77 (+90.33)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 10984.47 (-127.29)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index .... 525.58 (-1.90)

Sydney:
AO .... 2261.0 (+6.2)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 2499.32 (-11.00)

Singapore:
Straits .... 2414.79 (+9.19)

Brussels:
General .... 8629.54 (-68.18)

Paris:
CAC-40 .... 2007.95 (+4.12)

Zurich:
SKA Gen .... 765.80 (-8.20)

London:
FT 30 .... 2738.9 (-16.9)
FT 100 .... 3660.9 (-21.0)
FT-SE Mid 250 .... 4294.5 (-2.0)
FT-SE-A 350 .... 1845.5 (-8.5)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100 .... 1616.17 (-5.90)
FT A All-Share .... 1826.17 (-7.64)
FT Non Financials .... 1947.03 (-5.11)
FT Fixed Interest .... 110.76 (-0.10)
FT Govt Secs .... 92.31 (+0.01)
Bargains 45642
SEAQ Volume 822.8m
USM (Datastrm) .... 209.26 (+0.31)
US$ .... 1.5222 (-0.0018)
German Mark .... 2.2465 (-0.0052)
Exchange Index .... 83.2 (-0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.1892
£:SDR 1.0429
RPI .... 150.9 Feb (2.7%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX .... 150.2 Feb (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

First Infor (165)	183	+ 2
Fleming Wrld Inc	53	...
Fleming Wrld Uts	91	...
Freepages (12)	15	+ ½
Fulmar (154)	188	...
IOC Intl	126	+ 3
Int Btech Tst C (100)	100	...
Life Off Opps (100)	53	+ 1
M & G Equity Cap	22¼	...
M & G Equity Div	90	...
M & G Equity Inc	44	...
Macdonald Htl (145)	189	- 2
Marine & Merc (125)	125	...
New Asia Fund	695	...
Perp Inc Gth Ut (500)	510	...
Primary Hlth (100)	103	...
Schroder UK G Ut	255	+ ½
Silver Shield (3)	3¼	...
Stadium Group (120)	137	...
Streamline (180)	175	...
Triad Group (135)	183	...
Visual Action (185)	254	+ 1
Western Select Wts	5	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Abbott Md Vckr (460)	89	...
Fairway Group (80)	8	...
GWR Cv UL 96/01	25	- 3

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Heavitree .... 230p (+75p)
Micro Focus .... 650p (+57p)
Dag Motors .... 135p (+10p)
Taylor Woodrow .... 149p (+11p)
Michael Page .... 216p (+11p)
Boosey Hawkes .... 638p (+18p)
Greenalls Group .... 581p (+14p)

FALLS:
MAID .... 233p (-16p)
National Express .... 493p (-18p)
Telspec .... 673p (-22p)
Kingfisher .... 533p (-15p)
Courtaulds .... 428p (-12p)
Dalgety .... 413p (-11p)
Johnson Matthey .... 558p (-14p)
Royal Bank Scot .... 504p (-12p)
EFM .... 683p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS

P&O on a new heading

THE captain of P&O has finally taken heed of the grumbling from its first class passengers. Yesterday he invited them all to the captain's table, promised them a more enjoyable cruise and the prospect of a gala dinner with extra pudding, if all goes well.

By all accounts the message was well received by City analysts and fund managers. P&O is addressing its fundamental weakness, cash flow, with a programme of disposals that could raise £1 billion. The company suffers from exposure to highly cash consumptive businesses such as shipping, housebuilding and commercial property. Last year, P&O invested 25 per cent more cash than it generated from operations and that was before payinginterest, tax and dividends.

The sale of Bovis Homes removes one drain on the purse and plans are afoot to retrieve some capital from bulk shipping. If the market is there, P&O is likely to shrink its £2 billion property portfolio by more than the indicated £500 million. All to the good but the question is whether P&O can redeploy the capital in a way which will generate its target 15 per cent return and achieve that before the first class passengers start breaking the china. Container shipping is the core of the problem and P&O hopes that its strategic alliance with other ship owners will lead to industry consolidation.

Whether or not that process will result in P&O leading or leaving the business remains a question. Yesterday's message was a three-year haul to better returns. Investors might have preferred to hear of asset sales this year but the ship has finally altered course.

Taylor Woodrow

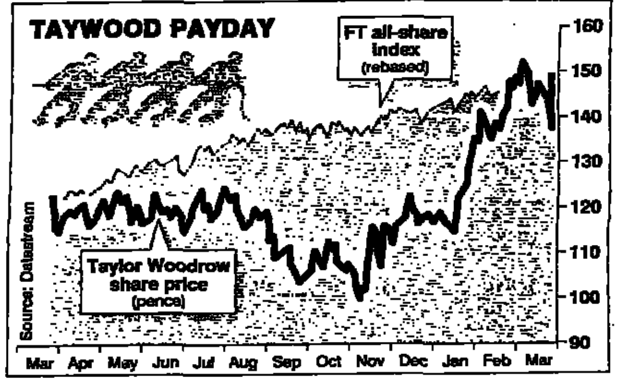
IT IS A brave or confident company which lifts its final dividend 50 per cent after serving up lower profits.

Taylor Woodrow's confidence is bolstered by wide overseas interests and by the near completion of major surgery on its business. The company generates more than 60 per cent of its revenue overseas, an expansion it has pursued to reduce its vulnerability to the dwindling output in UK construction.

In the UK much of Taylor Woodrow's restructuring work is now complete and it should soon start to see some results.

The prospects in the domestic building market are by no means glittering but the company has pledged to focus on projects which deliver higher margin prospects. It has won encouraging business on football stadia and for private finance initiative work and it is the market leader in the growing area of healthcare.

In tandem with a more focused approach to construction Taylor Woodrow is taking decisive action on its £450 million property investment portfolio. A hefty chunk of that will be sold with the cash pumped into property development. With low interest rates and a weak outlook for rental growth it makes sense to shift resources into more dynamic operations but demand for new space is patchy and the company will need to choose projects where market exposure is limited.



Charter

AFTER worries about a slowdown in the second half, Charter came up trumps in the second half. Esab, the welding equipment manufacturer generated a 17 per cent return on investment in its first year of ownership, despite a slowdown in Brazil because of the economic squeeze and a brand rationalisation programme in the US.

Esab achieved a 10.5 per cent return on sales last year and the company reckons that it ought to trade at 10 per cent margins over the whole of the industrial cycle. That suggests that the welding business should be operating at margins of 11 per cent or more at the peak, a period that some would forecast within the next 12 months.

If Charter can push Esab's returns up a notch or two, the current share rating of about 11 times current year earnings looks attractive but investors are already asking questions about new businesses. With half of its sales in a division about to achieve peak returns, Charter needs to balance its portfolio and there is talk of a fourth leg. If the new business is to make a difference Charter needs to invest more than £200 million and that implies a possible issue of new shares. Charter is not expensive at these levels but it might be wise to wait for the next deal.

Carnegie

TURNING a quick profit on the flotation of your building society is possibly the most painless of investments. Unfortunately, it is hard to avoid the element of lottery in which society will next desert the ship of mutuality, without the trouble of sinking £200 in dozens of deposit accounts.

Inevitably, the "stock picking" role has attracted a fund manager but Carnegie Asset Management's Building Societies Investment Trusts have the added attraction of offering a better nominal return than the poor rate on high street deposits. Carnegie's new trust will invest in permanent interest bearing shares — instruments issued by societies as a means of raising wholesale capital. They yield a premium to long-term gilts — 9 per cent or more — giving a 7 per cent return and if the society converts, the bonus could add another 14 per cent.

Carnegie is probably right to assume that more societies will convert — the lure of options and diversification is too much for most building society bosses to resist. But there are relatively few societies to choose from. Some 12 of the 80 societies issue PIBS — a small investment pool — and Carnegie will boost the investment pool with shares in floated societies. However, it is an interesting variation on a bond pep with the possibility of more speculative capital gains.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	950-870	May	981-980
May	903-902	Jul	unq
Jul	925-924	Sep	—
Sep	945-944	Dec	—
Dec	953-952		
Mar	970-969	Volume:	2347

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	2045-2041	Nov	1797-1796
May	1895-1894	Jan	1771-1770
Jul	1840-1839	Mar	1745-1735
Sep	1818-1817	Volume:	3624

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	325.5-23.0
Spot: 401.0		Mar	317.5-15.5
May	392.5-92.0	May	314.5-11.6
Aug	364.5-68.5	Aug	unq
Oct	335.5-34.5	Volume:	2440

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 25

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	124.08	166.11	97.11
(+/-)	+15.75	+11.91	-23.53
Eng/Wales:	124.52	169.47	94.94
(+/-)	+16.11	+14.67	-25.70
(%)	+11.0	+19.0	-94.0
Scotland:	107.67	155.10	110.26
(+/-)	+1.59	+3.87	-10.36
(%)	-13.0	+79.0	-91.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	21.85	+0.65
Brent 15 day (May)	20.10	+0.50
Brent 15 day (Jun)	18.75	+0.35
W Texas Intermediate (May)	22.30	+0.60
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	20.70	+0.50

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 202 (+1)	O: 204 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	211 (+11)	213 (+11)
Non EEC 1H Apr	205 (+12)	207 (+12)
Non EEC 1H May	181 (+6)	183 (+2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	104 (-3)	106 (-3)
Naphtha	182 (+2)	184 (+2)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)
GAS OIL

Apr	194.75-95.00	Jul	162.00 SLR
May	176.25-76.50	Aug	160.50-60.75
Jun	167.25-67.50		Vol: 22032

BRENT (6.00pm)

May	20.09-20.10	Aug	17.44-17.47
Jun	18.76-18.77	Sep	17.18-17.26
Jul	17.87-17.92		Vol: 39567

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	121.45	May	108.60
Jul	123.55	Sep	105.85
Sep	110.40	Nov	107.60
Nov	111.60	Jan	109.40
Jan	113.60	Mar	111.50
Volume:	272	Volume:	17

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	168.0	165.9
May	172.3	175.0
Jun	unq	225.0
	Volume:	40

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
May 104.00-104.50

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 96	—	—	—
Apr 96	1505	1490	1499
May 96	1440	1430	1431
Jul 96	1315	1310	1311

Vol: 87 lots Open interest: 5273
Index 1428 +3

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2533.0-2535.0	2518.0-2519.0	1581550
Lead ($/tonne)	825.00-827.00	804.00-805.00	269975
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1066.0-1066.5	1089.0-1090.0	327775
Tin ($/tonne)	6425.0-6430.0	6435.0-6440.0	17795
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1641.0-1642.0	1672.0-1672.5	1120800
Nickel ($/tonne)	8240.0-8245.0	8345.0-8350.0	53034

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Alld Dom	460	35	42	51	6½	9½	13
(*492)	500	7½	17½	30½	13	29	32½
Argyll	300	10	17½	23	4	14½	18½
(*305)	330	0½	5½	11	25	35	37½
ASDA	100	6	10½	12½	1	3½	5½
(*105)	110	1	5½	8	6	8½	10½
Boots	550	51½	59	65	0	7	12
(*599)	600	11½	28	33½	10	26	32
Br Airways	500	32½	43	49½	2	11½	16½
(*529)	550	3½	15½	24	23	37	41½
BP	550	23	35	44	3	12	18½
(*568½)	600	2	11	20	32	39	45
Br Steel	180	17½	21½	23	0½	6½	8½
(*196½)	200	3½	9½	12	7	16½	18½
C & W	460	27½	39½	52½	5½	17½	23
(*482)	500	8	22	35	22½	37½	44½
CU	550	31	48	54½	2½	10½	20
(*577)	600	4½	20½	28	25½	34½	45
ICI	900	25	52	64	13	29	42½
(*908½)	950	6	27½	40½	44	55	69½
Kingfishr	500	34½	41	52	3½	13	19
(*533)	550	3½	16	25½	31½	39	44½
Land Sec	600	16	25½	30	4½	21	24½
(*610)	650	0½	5½	11	40	57½	59
M & S	420	10½	19	26	4½	15½	19½
(*424½)	460	0	4½	10½	35½	43½	45½
Nat West	600	36	56	66	3½	13½	23
(*631)	650	7	28	39	23½	35½	40½
Sainsbury	360	13½	20	26	3	13	16
(*369)	390	1½	7	13	21½	32	34½
Shell	850	17½	28½	40	15½	25½	34½
(*865)	900	0½	9½	19	59½	61	65½
Smkl Bch	650	33	50	62½	4½	16½	24
(*676½)	700	6½	25	37½	27½	40½	48½
Storehse	330	14½	24	31½	3	11½	15½
(*341)	360	1½	9½	17	20	27½	31½
Trafalgar	45	3½	4	4	0½	0½	0½
(*48½)	50	0½	0½	0½	2½	2½	2½
Unilever	1200	35	52	72½	13	27½	34½
(*1228½)	1250	7½	28½	47	48	56	62
Zeneca	1300	55½	101	122½	9	36	50
(*1340)	1350	25	71½	95½	28	58	72

	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Grnd Met	420	10½	27½	36	9½	19½	23½
(*425)	460	6	11	18½	36	43½	46½
Ladbroke	180	18	26½	29	6½	11½	14½
(*188)	200	10	16	20	17½	22½	25½
Utd Bisc	220	21½	29½	33½	2½	6	9½
(*236)	240	9½	18½	22½	10	14	18½

March 26, 1996 Tot: 30460 Call: 18186 Put: 12274 FT-SE Call: 4235 Put: 2891
*Underlying security price.

	Series	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
BAA	500	31	40½	49½	1	9	13½
(*528½)	550	2½	13½	23	23	33½	37½
Thames W	550	30½	40	46	2½	16	20
(*576½)	600	5	14	21½	26	45	48½

	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BAT Ind	460	45	58	62	4	13½	17½
(*497)	500	19	33½	39½	17½	30½	35
BTR	300	20½	28	31½	2	5½	10
(*316)	330	4	11½	15½	15½	19	24½
Br Aero	850	33	62	77½	24	39½	49
(*855½)	900	12½	39	54	54½	67	75½
Br Telcm	330	15½	24	27	6	15	18
(*336)	360	4	11½	14½	25	34½	36½
Cadbury	500	28½	43	51	9½	15½	22½
(*516)	550	6½	21	27½	37	42½	48½
Guinness	460	11½	21½	27½	18½	24	29
(*460½)	500	2½	8½	13½	52½	53½	56½
GEC	330	32	38	41	1	8	10½
(*357½)	360	11½	19	23	10	21	23½
Hanson	180	12	14½	19	2	6	10
(*189)	200	2½	5½	10	12	17	21
LASMO	180	13	19½	23½	7½	10	12½
(*184½)	200	5	11½	14½	19	21½	23½
Lucas	200	16½	22½	26	3½	7½	11½
(*213)	220	5	12	15½	13	17½	21½
Pilkingtn	191	19	23½	—	1½	6	—
(*206½)	210	6½	13	—	8½	14½	—
Prudential	420	22½	36½	43	10	17	24
(*430)	460	6	17½	24½	33	39	45½
Redland	360	30	33	38	8½	13½	19
(*384½)	390	11½	17½	23½	24	29	34
R-Royce	200	19½	25	29½	3	7	9½
(*217)	220	7	14	19	12	16	18½
Tesco	260	15½	21	24	6	10	15½
(*272)	280	4½	11½	14½	17½	21	26
Vodafone	240	16	24½	29½	6½	13½	17
(*248)	260	6	15½	20	17	24½	27
Williams	300	18	21	23	6	8½	12½
(*313½)	330	3	7	10	26½	27½	30½

FT-SE INDEX (*3661)

	3550	3600	3650	3700	3750	3800
Calls						
Apr	112½	76	44	22½	10	3½
May	136½	102½	71½	48½	30	17½
Jun	156½	124½	93	69½	49½	33
Jul	176½	145½	114½	91½	68	51½
Dec	—	220	—	168	—	121½
Puts						
Apr	16½	29	40	78	116½	161
May	30½	52	71½	99½	131½	170
Jun	54	72	91	117½	146½	181
Jul	65	84	103½	130	157½	192
Dec	—	132	—	179	—	233

	Series	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Puts Jun	Puts Sep	Puts Dec
Abby Nat	550	29½	39	51	18½	28½	32
(*553)	600	10	18½	29½	50½	58½	60½
Amstrad	180	17	23	26½	7½	11	12½
(*188)	200	8	14	17½	18	21	23
Barclays	700	48½	61	70½	14½	25	29
(*725)	750	21½	34½	45	38	49½	54
Blue Circ	300	28	33	37½	7½	12	15½
(*325½)	330	10½	17	22½	22	27	30
Br Gas	220	15	17	20	8½	11½	15
(*230)	240	5	8	11	21	23	27
Dixons	430	46	53	62	6	13½	16
(*459)	460	20½	29½	39½	20½	30	33
Forte	343	10½	15	—	4	7	—
(*347½)	373	1	3	—	25½	26½	—
Tarmac	110	11	15	17	4	6½	8
(*119)	120	5½	9½	11½	9	11½	13
Hillsdwn	180	11½	13	15½	7½	10½	12½
(*187½)	200	3½	5½	7½	21½	23½	24½
Lonrho	200	19½	23	28½	5	8½	10½
(*211½)	220	8	12½	18½	14½	18½	20½
Sears	90	9½	11½	13	2	4	5
(*98)	100	3	6½	8	7	9	10
Thorn	1600	116½	142	161½	24½	55	62
(*1663½)	1700	58	88	108½	67½	104	109½
Tomkins	260	13½	17½	21	9	16	18
(*260)	280	5½	9½	13	22	28½	30½
Lloyds TSB	292	21	—	—	8½	—	—
(*299½)	322	7	—	—	26	—	—

	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo W	800	42	67½	83½	5	17½	31
(*835½)	850	12½	40	55½	25	38½	54
HSBC	950	52	87½	104½	8½	28	41
(*992½)	1000	20	59½	77½	26½	48	63½
Reuter	650	37	58½	71	4	16½	25
(*680½)	700	9½	30½	43½	25½	39	48

	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Royal Ins	330	23	35	41	2½	9½	15½
(*349½)	360	5½	18½	25½	14½	23	30

	Series	Jun			Jun		
Fisons	260	7	—	—	5½	—	—
(*265)	280	0½	—	—	19½	—	—

	Series	May			May		
Eastrn Gp	950	33	—	—	0½	—	—
(*975)	1000	0½	—	—	25	—	—

	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Natl Pwr	460	29½	33½	40½	15	20½	25
(*473½)	500	11½	15	22½	39½	44	47½
Scot Pwr	330	23½	29½	33	7	12	14½
(*343½)	360	7½	14	18½	20	28½	30½

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 63971	Jun 96	3671.0	3673.0	3643.0	3654.5	13144
	Sep 96				3670.5	0
FT-SE 250 Previous open interest: 3605	Jun 96				4315.0	0
	Sep 96					0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 323311	Jun 96	93.93	93.93	93.91	93.92	8917
	Sep 96	93.72	93.73	93.69	93.72	10489
	Dec 96	93.38	93.38	93.33	93.36	9696
Three Mth Eurodollar Previous open interest: 0	Mar 96					
Three Mth Euro DM Previous open interest: 1054633	Jun 96	96.78	96.78	96.76	96.77	17092
	Sep 96	96.69	96.69	96.65	96.68	17902
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 115280	Mar 96	105-30	105-30	105-21	105-27	684
	Jun 96	105-06	105-07	104-23	104-28	37916
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 96	118.45	118.50	118.42	118.45	937
	Sep 96	117.35	117.35	117.31	117.32	92
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open interest: 233928	Jun 96	96.58	96.59	96.25	96.44	124935
	Sep 96	95.50	95.58	95.45	95.58	841
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 22088	Jun 96	95.43	95.45	95.41	95.42	872
	Sep 96	95.39	95.40	95.38	95.39	544
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 52142	Jun 96	98.25	98.30	98.24	98.27	4352
	Sep 96	98.13	98.16	98.12	98.16	1567
Italian Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 50735	Jun 96	108.98	108.98	107.85	107.94	51908
	Sep 96				107.39	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: *Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6½*
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5⅞ Low 5½ Week fixed: 5⅞
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅞ ; 3 mth 5⅞ . Sell: 2 mth 5⅞ ; 3 mth: 5⅞ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅞-5¾	5⅞-5¾	5¾-5⅝	5¾-5⅝	
Sterling Money Rates:	6-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-6	6⅛-6⅛	6¼-6⅛
Interbank:	6-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-6	6⅛-6⅛	6¼-6⅛

Overnight: open 5⅞, close 5½ .

Local Authority Deps:	5⅞	n/a	6	6	6¼
Sterling CDs:	6-5⅞	6-5⅞	6-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞	6¼-6⅛
Dollar CDs:	5.31	n/a	5.31	5.35	5.56
Building Society CDs:	6-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-6	6¼-6⅛

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5¼-5	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5-4
Deutschemark:	3⅜-3¼	3⅜-3¼	3⅜-3¼	3½-3⅜	3½-2¾
French Franc:	4⅛-3⅞	4¼-4⅛	4¼-4⅛	4¼-4⅛	4⅛-3½
Swiss Franc:	1⅞-1½	1¾-1½	1¾-1½	2-1¾	2-1
Yen:	½-⅜	½-⅜	½-⅜	⅝-½	n/a

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $399.20-399.50 Close: $399.80-400.30 High: $400.40-400.90
Low: $398.00-398.50 AM: $399.45 PM: $399.90

Krugerrand: $399.25-401.25 (£262.00-264.00)

Platinum: $414.00 (£271.65) Silver: $5.71 (£3.735) Palladium: $140.75 (£92.35)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 26	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.5153-2.5229	2.5177-2.5210	½-⅜pr	1¼-1⅛pr
Brussels	46.19-46.36	46.25-46.35	12-9pr	34-29pr
Copenhagen	8.6760-8.7140	8.6900-8.7120	1½-1⅛pr	4¼-3¾pr
Dublin	0.9688-0.9723	0.9697-0.9723	9-6pr	25-20pr
Frankfurt	2.2479-2.2548	2.2503-2.2534	⅝-½pr	1⅝-1½pr
Lisbon	232.07-233.09	232.21-232.83	¼-⅞ds	⅝-1⅝ds
Madrid	188.94-189.61	189.17-189.45	37-47ds	109-126ds
Milan	2377.8-2396.9	2393.0-2396.9	7-9ds	21-24ds
Montreal	2.0752-2.0823	2.0783-2.0813	0.23-0.15pr	0.40-0.29pr
New York	1.5230-1.5266	1.5240-1.5250	0.09-0.07pr	0.25-0.22pr
Oslo	9.7770-9.8050	9.7900-9.8050	1¼-⅝pr	3⅛-2⅝pr
Paris	7.6910-7.7270	7.6970-7.7150	1½-1⅛pr	3⅞-3½pr
Stockholm	10.077-10.115	10.083-10.106	¼-⅞ds	⅝-1⅝ds
Tokyo	161.83-162.34	162.08-162.34	⅞-⅝pr	2⅝-2⅜pr
Vienna	15.807-15.859	15.823-15.850	4-1¾pr	11-7¾pr
Zurich	1.8145-1.8207	1.8173-1.8201	⅞-⅝pr	2-1¾pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2933-1.2941
Austria	10.38-10.39
Belgium (Com)	30.34-30.35
Canada	1.3624-1.3639
Denmark	5.7010-5.7040
France	5.0555-5.0565
Germany	1.4764-1.4769
Hong Kong	7.7315-7.7325
Ireland	1.5689-1.5709
Italy	1568.75-1569.75
Japan	106.31-106.33
Malaysia	2.5410-2.5420
Netherlands	1.6520-1.6530
Norway	6.4218-6.4293
Portugal	152.51-152.61
Singapore	1.4060-1.4070
Spain	124.10-124.20
Sweden	6.6180-6.6280
Switzerland	1.1918-1.1928

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5222-1.5248
Australia dollar	1.9699-1.9722
Bahrain dinar	0.5680-0.5800
Brazil real*	1.4887-1.4928
China yuan	12.00 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.7010-0.7110
Finland markka	6.9475-7.0635
Greece drachma	363.25-370.25
Hong Kong dollar	11.7743-11.7820
India rupee	51.32-52.28
Indonesia rupiah	3520.0-3588.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4500-0.4600
Malaysia ringgit	3.8699-3.8727
New Zealand dollar	2.2282-2.2313
Pakistan rupee	52.45 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.4825-5.6000
Singapore dollar	2.1413-2.1436
S Africa rand (com)	5.9510-6.0530
U A E dirham	5.5325-5.6565

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	908	Land Secs	231
ASDA Gp	11,000	Legal & Gn	5,700
Abbey Ntl	2,000	Lloyds TSB	12,000
Allied Dom	2,000	Marks Spr	10,000
Argos	530	NatWst Bk	3,100
Argyll Gp	4,000	Nat Grid	3,000
AB Foods	303	Nat Power	2,300
BAA	1,600	P & O	4,700
BAT Inds	4,000	Pearson	815
BOC	2,100	Pilkington	4,700
BP	16,000	PowerGen	2,500
BSkyB	2,000	Prudential	6,500
BTR	2,900	REXAM	1,400
BT	9,300	RMC	446
Bk of Scot	1,400	RTZ	2,700
Barclays	4,000	Rank Org	872
Bass	2,100	Reckitt Col	594
Blue Circle	840	Redland	1,700
Boots	1,600	Reed Intl	704
BAe	1,700	Rentokil	3,100
BA	2,400	Reuters	1,900
Brit Gas	11,000	Rolls Royce	2,100
Brit Steel	8,900	Royal Ins	1,200
Burmah Cstl	93	Ryl Bk Scot	3,700
Burton	1,600	Sainsbury	3,400
Cable Wire	3,600	Schroders	35
Cadbury	2,800	Scot & New	1,000
Carlton Cms	1,700	Scot Power	2,000
Cm Union	1,000	Svrn Trent	718
Cookson	4,500	Shell Trans	8,400
Courtaulds	1,500	Siebe	1,100
Dixons	1,900	SmKl Bch	2,000
Enterpr Oil	3,300	Smith Nph	2,400
For & Col IT	1,600	Smiths Inds	456
GKN	1,700	Sthern Elec	727
GRE	795	Std Chartd	1,500
GUS	824	Sun Allnce	4,300
Gen Acc	579	TI Gp	2,600
Gen Elec	3,100	Tate & Lyle	1,600
Glaxo Well	11,000	Tesco	5,000
Granada	3,200	Thames W	2,000
Grand Met	4,300	Thrn EMI	833
Greenalls	1,100	Tomkins	4,100
Guinness	6,600	Unilever	2,000
HSBC	3,600	United Utls	681
Hanson	11,000	Vodafone	6,300
ICI	5,500	Whitbread	2,100
Kingfisher	1,300	Wlms Hld	470
LASMO	2,900	Wolseley	1,500
Ladbroke	5,200	Zeneca	1,300

WALL STREET

	Mar 26 midday	Mar 25 close
AMP Inc	41¼	42¾
AMR Corp	91	91½
AT & T	62¾	62¾
Abbott Labs	40⅝	40⅝
Advanced Micro	17¼	17
Aetna Life	76	76¼
Ahmanson (HF)	23¾	24
Air Prod & Chem	55¾	56¼
AirTouch Comm	31¼	31¼
Alberto-Culver B	39¼	39¼
Albertson's	38¼	38¼
Alcan Alumnm	32¾	32¾
Alco Standard	53¾	52¾
Allied Signal	56¾	57¼
Alum Co of Am	62½	62¼
Amax Gold Inc	7¼	6¼
Amerada Hess	53¼	53¾
Amer Brands	43¾	43¼
Amer El Power	42¼	43¾
Amer Express	48¾	49
Amer Genl Corp	35¼	35¼
Amer Home Pr	103¼	103¼
Amer Intl	97¾	97¼
Amer Stores	30¼	30¼
Amer Standard	31	31
Ameritech	56½	56¼
Amoco	73¼	72¼
Anheuser-Busch	69	67¼
Apple Computer	24¾	24
Archer Daniels	18¼	18¼
Armco	5¾	5¼
Armstrng Wrld	62¼	63
Asarco	34¾	34¾
Ashland Oil	38¼	38¼
Atl Richfield	117¼	116¼
Auto Data Pro	39	38¾
Avery Dennison	55¼	55¼
Avon Products	86¼	86¼
Baker Hughes	29¾	29¼
Baltim Gas & El	27¼	27¾
Banc One	36¾	36½
BankAmerica	77¼	76½
Bank of NY	52¼	52½
Bankers Tr NY	72	72¼
Barnett Banks	62¼	62¼
Bausch & Lomb	38¼	38¼
Baxter Intl	46½	46½
Bectn Dicknsn	82¾	83
Bell Atlantic	64¼	64¾
Bell Industries	21¼	21½
BellSouth	38¼	38
Black & Decker	36¾	36½
Block (H&R)	36¼	36¼
Boeing	87¼	87¼
Boise Cascade	40¾	41
Bristol Myrs Sq	86½	85¾
Browning Ferris	30¾	30½
Brunswick	22¼	23
Burlington Nthn	83¾	82¼
CMS Energy Corp	29¾	29¾
CNA Financial	111¼	112¼
CPC Intl	70¾	70½
CSX	47	46½
Campbell Soup	64	64¼
Can Pacific	20	19¾
Carolina Pwr	37¼	37
Caterpillar	69¾	69¾
Central & SW	27¼	28
Champion Intl	44¾	44¼
Chase Manhat	73¾	73¾
Chemical Bk	70¾	70¾
Chevron Corp	56¼	55¾
Chrysler	63	63
Chubb Corp	95¾	95¾
Cigna Corp	115¾	115
Citicorp	79¾	79¼
Clorox	87½	87¾
Coastal Corp	39¾	39¾
Coca Cola	84¾	84¾
Colgate-Palmolive	79¾	79¾
Columbia Gas	44¾	45¾
ColumbiaHCA	54¼	54¾
Compaq Comp	36½	36½
Comp Ass Inf	69½	68
Conagra	41¼	41¼
Conrail	73	72¼
Cons Edison	31½	31½
Cons Nat Gas	43¼	43¼
Cooper Inds	39¾	39¼
Corestates	42¾	43
Corning Inc	36½	35¼
Crown Cork	48¼	48¾
Dana Corp	33¾	33¾
Dayton Hudson	85	85¾
Deere	42¾	42¼
Delta Air Lines	79¼	79¾
Deluxe Corp	31¼	31¼
Digital Equip	52¾	52¾
Dillard Dept St	35¾	35¼
Disney (Walt)	64¼	64¼
Dominion Res	40¼	40¼
Donelley (RR)	36¼	36¾
Dover Corp	46¾	47¾
Dow Chemical	87¼	87½
Dow Jones	39¾	40
Dresser	30	30¼
Duke Power	50¾	51¼
Dun & Bradstreet	60¼	60¾
Du Pont	82	82¼
Eastman Chem	73¾	74

	Mar 26 midday	Mar 25 close
Eastman Kodak	73¼	73¼
Eaton Corp	61¼	61¼
Edison Int	17¼	17½
Emerson Elec	82¾	81¼
Engelhard Corp	23½	23½
Enron Corp	37	37¼
Entergy	27¾	27¼
Ethyl Corp	10¼	10¼
Exxon	83¼	83¾
FMC Corp	74¼	74¼
FPL Group	45	45
Federal Express	79¾	79¼
Fed Nat Mtge	32¼	32¼
First Interstate	167¼	167¼
First Union Rlty	7¼	7¼
Fleet Finl Grp	40¾	40¼
Fluor Corp	68¼	69¼
Ford Motor	33¼	34
GTE Corp	43¼	43½
Gannett	68½	69
Gap Inc Del	57	58¼
Gen Dynamics	60	59¼
Gen Electric	78¼	79
Gen Mills	58¼	58¾
Gen Motors	54¼	54¼
Gen Reinsurance	144¼	147¼
Gen Signal	37	36¼
Genuine Parts	45	45
Georgia Pac	68¼	67¼
Gillette	53¼	53¼
Glaxo Welc ADR	25¼	24¼
Goodrich (BF)	79¼	78¼
Goodyear Tire	51¼	52¼
Grace (W&R)	77	76¼
Gt Atl Pac Tea	29¼	29¼
Great Wstn Fin	23¼	24
Halliburton	57½	57¼
Harcourt General	46½	46½
Heinz (HJ)	33¼	33¾
Hercules	62¼	62½
Hershey Foods	77¼	77¼
Hewlett Packard	94¼	94¼
Hilton Hotels	97¼	96½
Home Depot	48¼	49
Homestake Mng	19¾	19¾
Honeywell	55	55¼
Household Intl	68¾	68½
Houston Inds	22¼	22¼
Humana	24¾	24¼
ITT Corp	58¾	58½
Illinois Tool	67¾	68
Illinova	27¼	28¼
INCO	34¼	34¼
Ingersoll Rand	41¼	42¼
Inland Steel	24¼	24¼
Intel Corp	56	54⅞
IBM	110¾	108¼
Intl Flav & Fr	48¼	49¼
Intl Paper	38¼	38¼
James River Va	28	27¼
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	94½	93¼
Kellogg	77¼	78¼
Kerr-McGee	64¼	64½
Kimberly-Clark	77¼	77¼
Kmart	8¼	9¼
Knight-Ridder	69¼	69¼
Lilly (Eli)	66¾	66
Limited Inc	18½	18¾
Lincoln Nat	53½	53¼
Litton	46¼	46¼
Liz Claiborne	34½	34¼
Lockheed Martin	76¾	77¼
Louisiana Pac	23¼	24
MCI Comm	30¼	30¼
Marriott Int	49¼	49¼
Marsh & McLnn	95¼	94¾
Masco Corp	29¼	29¼
May Dept St	48¼	49¼
Maytag Corp	21¼	21½
McDonalds	49¼	49¼
McDonnell D	95¼	95¼
McGraw Hill	87½	88¼
Mead Corp	52¾	52¼
Medtronic	56½	56¼
Mellon Bk	59¼	56¼
Melville Corp	33½	33½
Merck Inc	63¼	62¼
Merrill Lynch	59¼	59¼
Microsoft	101¼	99¼
Minnesota Mine	64¾	64¼
Mobil Corp	115¼	114¼
Monsanto	154¼	156¼
Morgan (JP)	84¼	84¾
Motorola Inc	54¾	54
Natl Semi	14¾	14¼
Natl Service Ind	35¼	35¼
Navistar Int	10¾	10¼
NY Times A	29¾	29¾
Newmont Mng	56¼	55½
Niag Mohawk	6½	6½
Nike B	84¼	84¼
NL Industries	13¼	14
Noram Energy	9¾	9¼
Nordstrom	47¾	48¼
Norfolk Sthrn	85¼	84¼
Nthn State Pwr	49¼	49½
Norwest Corp	36¼	36¼
Nynex Corp	50¾	50¾
Occidental Pet	26¾	26¼
Ohio Edison	22¾	22¾

	Mar 26 midday	Mar 25 close
Oracle	47¾	47¾
Oryx Energy Co	13	12¾
Owens Corning	41¾	41¼
PHH Corp	52¼	53¼
PPG Industries	49½	49
PNC Bank	30¼	30¼
PP&L Res	24¾	24
Paccar Inc	50½	50½
Pacificorp	20¼	20¾
Pac Enterprises	26½	26¾
Pac Gas & Elect	25¾	25¼
Pac Telesis	28¾	28¾
Pall Corp	27¾	27¼
Panhandle East	30¼	30¾
Parker Hannifin	38¾	38½
Peco Energy	26¼	26¼
Penney (JC)	49¾	51
Pennzoil	39¼	39¼
Pepsico	63¼	63½
Pfizer	68¼	67¾
Pharm & Upjhn	41¼	41¼
Phelps Dodge	68¼	67¾
Philip Morris	87¾	87¾
Phillips Pet	38¼	38¼
Pitney Bowes	48¼	49
Polaroid	42¼	41½
PriceCostco	18¼	18¼
Procter & Gmbl	87¼	86¼
Providian	44¼	44¼
Pub Serv E & G	27¼	26¼
Quaker Oats	33½	34¼
Ralston Purina	67¼	67¼
Raychem Corp	67	67
Raytheon	52¼	52¼
Reebok Intl	29¾	29¾
Reynolds Metals	58¼	58¼
Rockwell Intl	59¼	59¼
Rohm & Haas	65¾	66¼
Royal Dutch	141¼	141¼
Rubbermaid	29¼	29¼
SBC Comms	53¾	53¾
Safeco Corp	34¼	34½
St Paul's Cos	56¼	56¼
Saloman Inc	37½	37
Sara Lee Corp	33¾	33¾
Schering Plough	60	59¼
Schlumberger	79¾	79¼
Seagram	33¼	33¼
Sears Roebuck	49½	49¼
Shell Trans	80¼	79¼
Sherwin Wlms	43¼	43¼
Skyline Corp	24	24
Snap-On-Tools	46½	46½
Southern Co	23¼	23¾
Sprint Corp	36¼	37¼
Stanley Works	56½	56¼
Sun Company	28¾	28½
Sun Microsys	43¼	43¼
Suntrust	72¼	72¼
Supervalu	31¾	31¼
Sysco Corp	34¾	34¼
TRW Inc	90¼	89¾
TCC Inds	2¼	2¼
Tandem Comp	9	9¼
Tandy Corp	45¼	46
Teledyne	28¾	28¾
Temple Inland	46½	46¼
Tenneco	55½	55¾
Texaco	87¼	87¾
Texas Inst	51¾	50¼
Texas Utilities	41¾	41¾
Textron	84¼	84½
Time Warner	41¼	41¼
Times-Mirror A	38¼	38¼
Timken	46¼	46¼
Torchmark	44¼	45¾
Toys R Us	26¼	27¾
Transamerica	77¾	76¼
Travelers	64¼	64¼
Tribune	67¼	67½
Tyco Labs	35¼	34¾
UST Inc	32¼	32
UAL	207¼	208
US Inds	19¼	19¾
USX Marathon	19¾	19½
Unicom	28¾	28¼
Unilever NV	139¾	139¼
Union Camp	50¼	50½
Union Carbide	48¼	48¼
Union Pacific	69¾	68¾
Unisys Corp	6	6
USAIR Group	18¼	19¼
USF&G Corp	15½	15¾
US Life	30¼	30¾
United Tech	115¾	115¾
Unocal Corp	33½	32¾
VF Corp	55¼	55¾
WMX Tech	31¼	31¼
Wal-Mart Stores	23½	23¾
Warner-Lambert	105¾	104¼
Wells Fargo	251¾	251½
Westinghouse El	19¼	19¾
Weyerhaeuser	46¼	46¾
Whirlpool	57¾	57¾
Whitman	24¾	24¾
Winn Dixie	35¾	35½
Woolworth	15¼	15¾
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	60¾	61½
Xerox	129¾	129¾
Yellow Corp	13⅛	13¼

هكذا من الاسس

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Beef crisis? Not at Asda

MAD timing for Asda, which launched a multi-million-pound beef promotion throughout its supermarkets yesterday. Seemingly oblivious to the furore down on the farm, Asda's Great British Beef promotion has been planned for the run up to Easter. For a fortnight, Asda shoppers have the opportunity of filling their baskets with bargains, including sirloin at £7.25 per pound as opposed to £9.99. The promotion is rumoured to have cost Asda £5 million, but the supermarket chain says its customers are over the moon. "We've had a vote of confidence from our customers," says Sue Finnegan, public relations manager at Asda. "Our beef sales have been increasing year on year."

Europhobe

ALAN MEALE, MP for Mansfield and chairman of the Parliamentary Beer Club, was handed a one billion ecu coin outside the House of Commons yesterday. The gift was from the loony Hugh Becker, chairman of Teesdale Traditional Taverns in County Durham, who claims to have spent a five-figure sum on 5,000 smaller ecu medals, cast in bronze, to protest against government duty on beer. "You might say that this is a case of carrying Kohls to Newcastle, but our customers are tired of Brussels," Becker says.

Meale: billionaire

PHILLIPS, the auctioneer, was by far the most popular stand at the Society of Names conference in Jermyn Street yesterday. Lloyd's names were witnessed flocking to its stand, with the hope of fixing a price on their family heirlooms.

Not me, lad

AUTHORSHIP of quotes is not always a precise science. So in attributing the quote that Halifax's £10 billion flotation next year will represent "possibly the biggest give-away in terms of value in the history of the world" to chief executive Mike Blackburn, who delivered it at yesterday's results, would be wrong. The author was Gary Marsh, a Halifax spokesman.

Way to the top

JOHN FRY, deputy chairman of Abbey National, celebrated his retirement after 35 years with the building society-turned bank with some old friends and rivals at a cocktail party hosted by his chairman Lord Tugendhat this week. Only the second graduate to be employed by the society, Mr Fry's success, he revealed, was based on tricks picked up during National Service in the Royal Dragoons. "buy a clipboard, look efficient and answer questions briskly — even if with no content at all".

SOME familiar faces were missing at UniChem's preliminary results in London yesterday. When chief executive Jeff Harris asked why only half the analysts expected were there, he was told the others had opted at the last minute to join a freebie to a Barcelona condom factory instead.

MORAG PRESTON

What British business wants from Europe

Philip Bassett

on the EU governmental conference

Business leaders in Britain and Europe will be watching warily as the EU's leading politicians head for Turin for the start of the intergovernmental conference (IGC) on the future of Europe. They are worried that in the diplomacy of updating the Maastricht treaty Europe's business and economic interests will not be at the forefront of the protracted negotiating process the IGC will become after its launch on Friday.

Unice, the cross-European employers' body, says it wants this IGC to avoid the difficulties encountered in 1991, the negotiating run-up to Maastricht. Chambers of commerce put it even more bluntly: "During the passage of the Maastricht treaty, there was little attention paid to the real effect on business, on jobs and on the prosperity of the nation."

Not this time, says business. This time, economic competitiveness — especially, for Europe against the "tiger" economies of the Far East and the emerging economic forces of India and China — must be to the fore.

Adair Turner, CBI Director-General, says: "The EU faces two great challenges, the need to ensure that European business improves its competitiveness in world markets and the need to anchor the new democracies of Eastern Europe in an enlarged economic community.

"The IGC will prove to be a distraction unless it delivers change to institutions and decision-making which make competitiveness and enlargement more easily attained."

Robin Geldard, President of the British Chambers of Commerce, agrees — making specific reference to the issue over Europe that business sees as the most important and as having the potential for the greatest distraction. "Our biggest worry would be that all this talk of a single currency, and more generally Europe, will divert UK business from the bigger objective: competitiveness on a world stage."

British business leaders say there is already enough about the IGC to worry them. Although there is no formal agenda for the IGC talks, the Maastricht commitment for a review of the treaty has a primarily structural focus: Issues such as the European legislative process, the EU presidency system, qualified majority voting, the number of commissioners, the powers of the European Parliament and the European Court of Justice.

Business leaders in the UK believe that such matters, vital in the high councils of Europe, seem at best of limited relevance to companies in Britain worried about whether the slowdown in the economy will bite them as a new recession. But they insist that companies' complaints about Brussels, including legal measures — especially about employment — that they are still being required to implement show precisely why business should be concerned with the outcome of the IGC process. If you do not want your company hit by such moves, the message goes, then the IGC is not some irrelevant piece of Euro-nonsense, but something that really does matter.

The UK Government's pre-IGC paper was enough to stoke business concerns. In 27 pages, the word competitiveness appears only five times, and even then, business judges, its secondary, or at least largely external, role is apparent. "The IGC needs to proceed in parallel with other necessary work, including the reform of key policies, and the need for member states to improve the competitiveness of their economies." And if that's the UK Government's view, goes business opinion, how much worse will be that of other EU countries, less wedded to the importance of competitiveness than Britain?

In a letter to Malcolm Rifkind, Foreign Secretary, about the Government's pre-IGC document, the British Chambers of Commerce says: "We perceive the lack of other departments' input, particularly the Department of Trade and Industry's, in the White Paper." Certainly, the competitiveness unit of Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister was barely involved in preparing the UK's IGC line.

Business irritation at the IGC's perceived lack of competitive focus is widespread. But such unity masks deeper divisions over Europe, which business fears the IGC may amplify when the pork-barrel politics of the EU draws the whole process in towards what will inevitably be a compromise deal at its end, in 18 months to two years' time. "Unice reaffirms its support for the objective of economic and monetary union and the introduction of the single currency on the basis of the Maastricht treaty conditions and timetable," says the European employers' body in its document for the IGC. "The forthcoming IGC must not reopen negotiations on EMU."

Such a bold statement makes Unice's British member, the CBI, uneasy. Indeed, Unice's IGC paper includes a CBI "opt-out" clause on the point, recognising the the confederation's support for the UK Government's single currency opt-out.

Opinion and anecdotal evidence confirm British business's dichotomy over Europe. With the rest of Europe as a key export market, business in the UK is firmly wedded to close and continuing European cooperation. But it finds some of Europe's views, especially on social affairs, hard to take, at least in theory. The practical experience of some EU legislation, such as European works councils, is proving perhaps less of a horned beast than some of the ideological tub-thumping from business at first suggested.

That leads to conflicting accounts of what business thinks. In its repeated calls for a "rational debate" on Europe, the CBI is at the same time clearly critical of the UK Government, which, it says, "needs to establish its credibility as a constructive force committed to the EU".

Yet organisations such as the Institute of Directors, which is devoting the whole of its annual conference next month to Europe, claims a strong and strongly hostile homogeneity to some key European issues such as the single currency and the social chapter. Ruth Lea, IoD policy head, says: "Business is sending a very clear message to politicians about these issues, and we hope they will be carefully noted during negotiations in the forthcoming IGC."

What British business wants from the IGC is clear:

☐ **Competitiveness.** Business says that if Europe fails to be competitive it will be incapable of achieving any of its objectives. At present, strengthening competitiveness is only an "activity" of the EU. For the IGC, business in Europe is proposing that it be upgraded to a full objective .

☐ **Single market.** More than three years after coming into effect, the single market is seen by business as incomplete. If the powers of European institutions need to be changed, business wants to see them enhanced to ensure the full completion of the single market.

☐ **EMU.** In the main, business is positive about monetary union. However, it remains worried about the convergance criteria and the timetable. If the IGC is to touch EMU, it should enact change only that enhances rather than detracts from it.

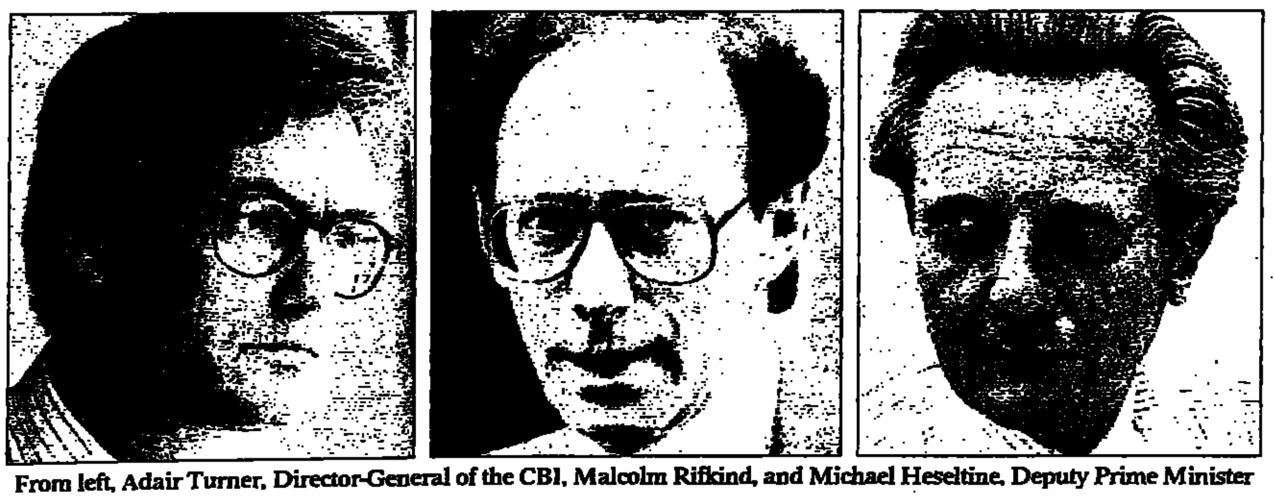
☐ **Deregulation.** Business fears that the IGC will lead to a new raft of regulation and is insisting that any proposals for amendments to Maastricht should be specifically and rigorously tested for their effect on the creation and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises.

☐ **Transparency.** Any IGC changes to European institutions, such as the voting strengths of different member states,should be clear and judged on the basis of efficiency and the equity of implementation.

☐ **Social policy.** A competitiveness test is the bare minimum, and some business leaders now state that there are simply no further areas where any EU legislation should impact upon the employment relationship; in other words, social policy should stop.

All this is a sizeable agenda. But business feeling is that however sizeable, it is not the IGC's agenda. That means business will be looking hard at Turin and what follows. Peter Agar, the CBI's deputy director-general, says: "We are not saying, drop the IGC agenda and do something completely different, but whatever it says on institutional change we ought to ask is that going to help deliver a Europe better able to to compete in world markets, to grow and to create jobs."

Ruth Lea, of the Institute of Directors, says business is sending a clear message to politicians


From left, Adair Turner, Director-General of the CBI, Malcolm Rifkind, and Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister

ANTHONY HARRIS

Next climbdown: Helmut and his mad EMU plan?

The embattled John Major and the triumphant Helmut Kohl have not got much in common. But they do share two striking qualities: a political will which confounds their opponents; and an ability to ignore uncomfortable realities which is the despair of their supporters. Both have chosen the same week to demonstrate them.

Major may seem to have followed his model, Mr Micawber, into the realms of pure fantasy. What, apart from EU subventions, can possibly turn up to help him this time? Public memory is short, and tax cuts and the smell of roast beef may yet prove more appetising than now seems possible; but first there must be some sort of climbdown, and yet more humiliation. He is also no doubt aware (and Tony Blair clearly agrees) that public indignation against the EU could be very helpful to the Tories; and Brussels has played his game by overreacting.

The Kohl game plan is just the opposite. Helmut, who reunited Germany at one bold (and expensive) stroke is now going to unite Europe itself. He clearly understands the romantic German soul much better than his bean-counting SDP opponents. They were trying to frighten German voters into clinging to their D-mark, got it wrong, and so helped to rescue the Free Democrats for the umpteenth time. The Chancellor will be harder than ever to restrain at the inter-governmental meeting in Turin. But despite appearances, he too is playing Micawber.

What he hopes will turn up is the German economy. Unless the current mild German revival matures into something really beefy, it may be Germany rather than France which misses the EMU convergence criteria. The French have realistically revised their growth forecast for this year down to 1.4 per cent, and still hope to get within a plausible distance of a 3 per cent deficit. Germany is still relying on a growingly implausible official growth forecast of over 3 per cent, which would require boom conditions in the second half of the year, to get no nearer than the French.

Implausible, but not impossible in present conditions. The Bundesbank has cut rates more boldly than anyone expected. It has already achieved a 6 per cent devaluation against the dollar, and a renewal of broad money growth which has encouraged broad monetarists to forecast a boom. The catch is that official plans would undermine current conditions. The bond market is expecting further "savage" Budget cuts, which could negate much of the Bundesbank's good work; and the plan to finance cuts in employment taxes with a sharp rise in VAT could shake voters out of their romantic dreams.

These are not the only dangers. First, how much will low rates help? History suggests German growth and investment are more responsive to long-term interest rates than to money rates, and here policy has been much less successful. German bonds now yield more than their US counterparts — a familiar pattern in London, but a new and rather humiliating one in Frankfurt. Have investors noticed the US is now much nearer to Maastricht virtue than any EU member?

EMU itself is partly to blame for German bond troubles. Foreign investors are a little chary of D-mark bonds which may be repaid in unknown euros. Any suggestion of fudge on the Maastricht rules will make them charier; and we already have a steep yield curve. This does not usually promise growth; and it may well inhibit Buba from more cuts to reduce overvaluation of the core European currencies.

If Germany gets a shock, such as Holland's from the Fokker collapse, the political mood could become very fragile. Small wonder, then, that some of Kohl's supporters want an easier timetable. For the present, he will follow the Major strategy, and keep his fingers crossed. But next year?

BUSINESS LETTERS

The real question for Britain's petrol forecourt giants

From Dr Marcel Cohen

Sir, I write in response to articles on March 1 on the BP and Mobil forecourt link-up.

My own research shows that Mobil's trading territory has less overlap with other brands than its competitors. Therefore a link-up with Mobil is an attractive proposition for petrol companies wishing to access "new" sales. No doubt BP will have done its own howework and arrived at the same conclusion. BP and Mobil tell us that increasing the volumes base will save costs. However, "buying" new volumes does not address the underlying question — why is volume falling in the first place?

You do not need an MBA to work out the main problem facing petrol marketers is that motorists perceive little or no difference between competing brands. Surely it is this issue that oil companies should address.

In April, The Management School will hold a one-week seminar "marketing for petrol marketers" when this very point will be discussed. Surprisingly, only a handful of petrol companies believe they should attend.

Yours faithfully,
MARCEL COHEN
Lecturer in Marketing,
Imperial College
Management School,
53 Prince's Gate,
Exhibition Road, SW7.

Lloyd's losses

From Mr John Pincham

Sir, Will the DTI require hardpressed British members of Lloyd's to pay shares of losses not collectible from non-paying American members as well as shares of losses not collectible from dead, bankrupt and elusive members?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN PINCHAM
(County Councillor — Claygate and Hinchley Wood),
35 Lodge Close,
Stoke D'Abernon, Surrey.

Finland flies the European Union flag

From Mr Donald Tait

Sir, It appears from Anthony Harris's article on March 20 about the EU unemployment problem that his antipathy towards things "European" has clouded slightly his memory. Finland became a member of the European Union in January 1995. Prehaps he meant Norway, or somewhere totally different.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD TAIT,
29 Sint-Katelijne Straat,
1000 Brussels, Belguim.

Let the marketing director get in the picture

From Mr Noel Gee

Sir, At company annual report time we always seem to be shown a picture of the chief executive accompanied by the finance director. Ought this not to be the marketing director? After all, he generates the company income: the finance man only has to count it.

Yours faithfully,
NOEL GEE
4 Rushmead
Ham, Richmond
Surrey.

Annual Meeting of Shareholders

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders will be held on Thursday, May 9, 1996, 10:00 a.m. at BASF-Feierabendhaus, Leuschnerstraße 47, Ludwigshafen/Rhine, Germany

Agenda
1. Presentation of the Financial Statements of BASF Aktiengesellschaft and BASF Group for 1995; presentation of the 1995 Annual Report covering BASF Aktiengesellschaft and the BASF Group; presentation of the Supervisory Board Report.
2. Declaration of dividend.
3. Ratification of the actions of the Supervisory Board.
4. Ratification of the actions of the Board of Executive Directors.
5. Appointment of an auditor.
6. Authorization of the Board of Executive Directors to issue bonds with warrants of the company; creation of conditional capital.
7. Reduction in the nominal value of a proportion of the shares issued by the company.

Shareholders wishing to participate in the Annual Meeting and to exercise their right to vote must have deposited their shares during normal office hours and in the prescribed form at a depository bank. The shares should remain deposited until the conclusion of the Annual Meeting. Shareholders have the right to vote by proxy. Depository banks and the full Agenda are published in the "Bundesanzeiger" of the German Federal Republic Nr. 60 of March 26, 1996.

Depository banks in the U.K.:

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited
S.G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.

The deposit is only effective if the shares are submitted by Thursday, May 2, 1996.

The Board of Executive Directors
Ludwigshafen/Rhine,
March 26, 1996

BASF Aktiengesellschaft
67056 Ludwigshafen

BASF

Charter leaps to £104m and seeks big buy

By Alasdair Murray

CHARTER, the industrial products company, yesterday announced full-year profits of £103.7 million, compared with £55.7 million for a nine-month period in 1994, and said it was seeking a big acquisition.

Jeffrey Herbert, chief executive, said the company wanted to buy "a market-leading industrial business" for about £250 million. But he added that while it had looked at a number of options, no purchase was imminent.

Mr Herbert was also confident about the outlook for the company this year. He said: "We view the future with confidence. The aquisition of Esab has been successfully bedded in and the business is led by an experienced and dedicated team."

The City was impressed by the results and shares in the company rose 14p to close at 895p. Turnover rose from £527 million for the nine months in 1994 to £1.1 billion in 1995. Earnings per share on a comparable nine-month period rose 71 per cent to 76.5p. The total 27.5p dividend represents a rise of 14.6 per cent on an annualised basis.

Easb, the welding division, produced profits of £74.6 million in its first full year since acquisition. The company said it had performed strongly in all its main markets except Germany but that it was confident of improving its position this year.

Pandrol, the rail track arm, increased profits from £9.6 million (nine months) to £15 million. The building materials division also improved in spite the weakness in the European construction market and registered profits of £12.4 million compared with £9.6 million (nine months).

The net margin rate rose to 9.2 per cent. Gearing fell to 17 per cent after £80 million of disposals last year. A final dividend of 19p is payable on May 24.

Tempus, page 28

Bid defence cost Country Casuals £1m

COUNTRY CASUALS incurred costs of £1.1 million defending itself against a takeover bid by John Shannon, its former chief executive, last year, the fashion group said yesterday.

In spite of the exceptional charge, the company made pre-tax profits of £249,000 for the year to January 27, up from losses of £987,000 in the previous year. Earnings per share were 0.60p, against losses of 4.45p. The total dividend rises to 5.41p, from 4.3p, with a 4p final. The shares rose 2p, to 156p.

Sales from ongoing businesses rose by 9.7 per cent, to £52.8 million.

PHIL YEOMANS

Mike Stacey, left, chief executive, and Terry Twigger, finance director, of Meggitt, where there has been substantial restructuring

Meggitt loss reaches £22m

MEGGITT, the engineering company that underwent a substantial restructuring last year, has disclosed losses of £22.7 million before tax for 1995, compared with losses of £468,000 in the previous 12 months.

Latest losses include a provision of £19.9 million against the proposed disposal of Plastic Fabricating, a subsidiary.

In spite of the substantial cost of reshaping the business, Meggitt is maintaining the total dividend at 3.93p a share, with a 2.63p final.

Iceland ahead for 25th time

By Sarah Bagnall

THE benefits of a big marketing campaign together with a tighter strategic focus helped Iceland Group, the frozen food retailer, celebrate its 25th year of consecutive profits' growth.

The group added that during this year it plans to spend £25 million on refitting more than 100 of its older stores and plans to open 40 more. Last year Iceland opened 56 new stores, lifting the total to 752. The group's capital expenditure is expected to rise £9 million to £75 million because of the new store openings, refurbishments and planned investment in IT systems.

Pre-tax profits edged ahead 3.4 per cent from £70.2 million to £72.6 million on sales up 5.6 per cent at £1.4 billion in the year to December 30.

Food sales rose 5.8 per cent to £1.3 billion, in spite of an autumn fall in like-for-like sales. In September, in an attempt to counterr this, a big marketing campaign was launched, coinciding with its 25th anniversary. Malcolm Walker, chairman and chief executive, said: "This resulted in a turnaround in like-for-like food sales from minus 3.5 per cent in the first nine weeks of the second half to 2 per cent growth in the final 17 weeks."

The final 3.6p dividend, due May 24, makes a year's total of 5.25p, up 25 per cent from last time. Earnings per share rose 1.8 per cent to 17p. The shares gained 3p to 155p.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Higher volume lifts Lloyd Thompson

NEW contracts with British Telecom, Halifax Building Society, and RTZ helped increase business for Lloyd Thompson Group, the international insurance and reinsurance broker, for the six months to December 31. Brokerage rose 8 per cent to £23.1 million from higher volume, while pre-tax profit increased 14 per cent to £10.4 million.

Ken Carter, chief executive, said results for the first half had benefited from a high level of investment income, although, given the decline in interest rates in recent months, this was unlikely to be maintained in the second half. The interim dividend is lifted to 3p (2.75p).

ALP in property sale

ALLIED LONDON PROPERTY has raised £42 million through the sale of 12 investment properties to an unidentified, private property company. The portfolio included office, industrial and retail properties with a book value of £40.9 million. Net rental income of the properties is £4.2 million a year, ALP said. The company also reported a decline in pre-tax profits to £4.2 million in the six months to the end of December from £5.89 million in the first half of the previous year. The interim dividend is held at 1.18p.

Barr & Wallace slides

BARR & WALLACE ARNOLD TRUST, the motor retail and leisure group, is maintaining the total dividend for 1995 at 11p a share, with an unchanged 8p final payout, after a decline in annual profits to £4.6 million before tax from £5.6 million. Earnings were 20.8p a share against 22.3p. The company said overheads and gearing were reduced, strengthening the balance sheet. Trading so far this year was generally in line with the board's expectations and was ahead of last year. The shares fell 4p to 22p.

Barclays picks Norwich

NORWICH UNION has beaten competition from Royal Insurance and Commercial Union to supply household insurance products to Barclays Insurance Services (Bisco). Norwich Union will provide personal general insurance products and claims services to Bisco's 500,000 customers in a deal worth more than £100 million a year in premium income. Norwich Union will provide a 24-hour claims service, starting with household clients, to be followed by other personal insurance projects. Bisco had been using a panel of insurers.

Wetherspoon funding

JD WETHERSPOON, the acquisitive UK pub operator, is raising £13.5 million through a private placing of shares in America. Institutional investors have subscribed for 1.8 million new shares, representing 5 per cent of the company's share capital, at 786p each. Existing shares put on 39p to 830p yesterday. The company said that the proceeds of the placing, combined with recently agreed additional bank facilities, will be used to fund further expansion.

Hamleys thanks tourists

Hamleys, the self-styled finest toyshop in the world, showed the benefit of a mini tourist boom in 1995 with a £750,000 rise in pre-tax profits to £6.4 million in the year to January 27.

The flagship Regent Street store in London achieved a 10 per cent sales increase and stores at Covent Garden, Heathrow and serving the Channel Tunnel achieved combined growth of 42 per cent.

Howard Dyer, the chairman, said: "Current trading is ahead of last year, although the impact of the potential return of terrorism is an unknown factor." The dividend is raised from 7p to 8.1p, with a 5.4p final, on earnings per share of 19.3p, compared with 21.2p.

Upton back to the black

Upton & Southern, the department stores group that came close to collapse last summer after putting the Reject Shop chain into receivership, returned to profit in the 26 weeks to January 27.

The retailer made a pre-tax profit of £274,000 on sales of £4.8 million compared with a £1.2 million loss last time on sales of £20.6 million. There is no final dividend.

Boxmore boost

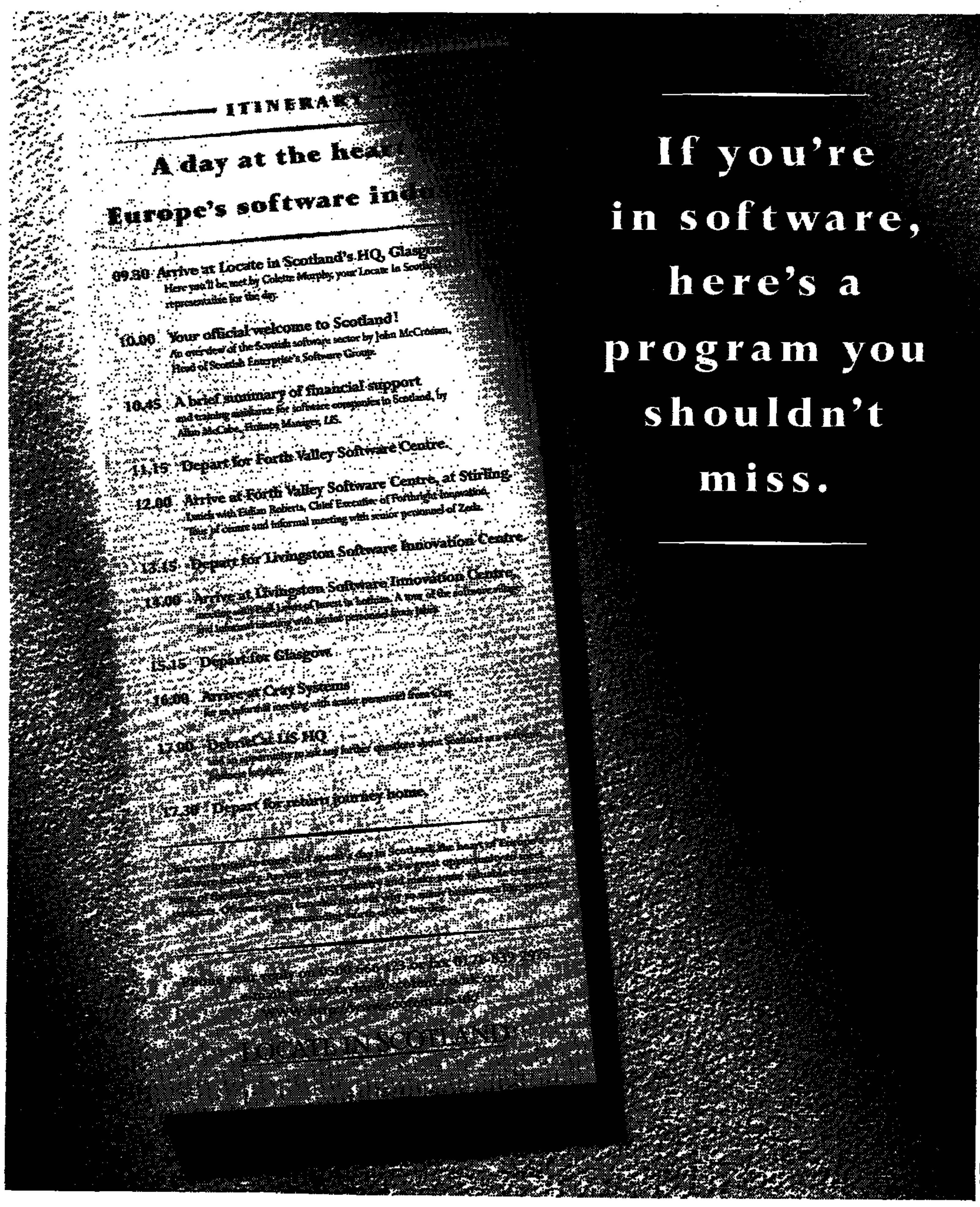
Boxmore International, the packaging company based in Northern Ireland, lifted pre-tax profits to £11.1 million in 1995 from £7.05 million in 1994. Total dividend rises to 5.28p a share from 4.48p, with a 3.66p final. Harold Ennis, chairman, said that although a cautious view may be taken of European economies, many export markets are still buoyant. The shares rose 20p to 502p.

Mature savings

More than £4 billion of National Savings 36th Issue of Savings Certificates and Series C Capital Bonds will begin to mature of April 2, five years after their purchase date. All will have matured by May 2 1997. The Government's savings arm estimates that, based on previous experience, 65-75 per cent of the maturing funds will be reinvested into Capital Bonds, the current series is J, Fixed Rate and index-linked Savings Certificates.

Crest cover

The Treasury yesterday issued a consultation document outlining proposed amendments to the Financial Services Act that will give investors better protection when Crest, the new computerised and paperless share settlement system, comes into effect in July.



ITINERARY

A day at the hea

Europe's software ind

09.30 Arrive at Locate in Scotland's HQ, Glasgow.

Here you'll be met by Colette Murphy, your Locate in Scotland representative for the day.

10.00 Your official welcome to Scotland!

An overview of the Scottish software sector by John McCrosson, Head of Scottish Enterprise's Software Group.

10.45 A brief summary of financial support and training assistance for software companies in Scotland, by Alan McCabe, Finance Manager, LiS.

11.15 Depart for Forth Valley Software Centre.

12.00 Arrive at Forth Valley Software Centre, at Stirling.

13.15 Depart for Livingston Software Innovation Centre.

14.00 Arrive at Livingston Software Innovation Centre.

15.15 Depart for Glasgow.

16.00 Arrive at Cray Systems

17.00 Debrief at LiS HQ

17.30 Depart for return journey home.

If you're in software, here's a program you shouldn't miss.

Spending a day in Scotland will do wonders for your expansion plans.

It's a chance to explore what has made Scotland the home of a £700 million software market.

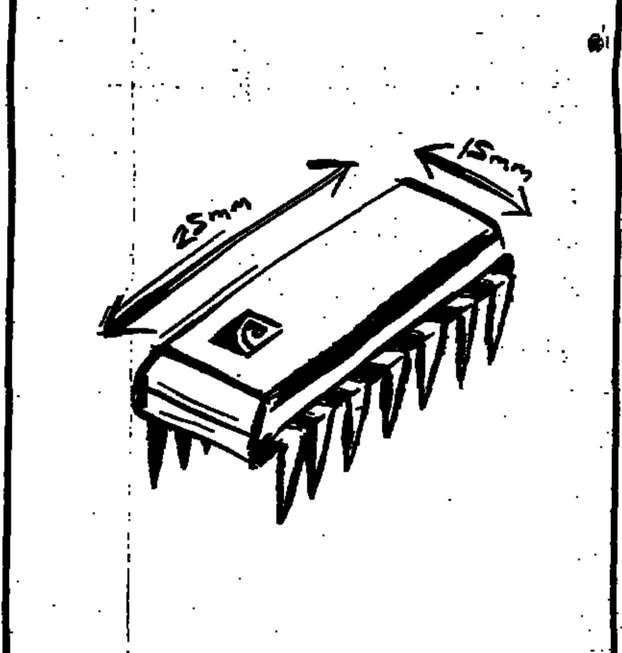
And to meet some of the many names who have moved north to join the 20,000 people already working here.

Like Bull, Cray Systems, Adobe and Admiral – just a few of the 300 software companies located in Scotland.

To organise a visit that's tailor-made to your needs, contact Locate in Scotland. You'll find our telephone/fax numbers and e-mail addresses detailed above.

We'll write you the kind of program that'll definitely stay in your memory.

CONTACT
LOCATE IN SCOTLAND
0500 666 123



In Lothian 175 companies work in this area. And there's plenty of room for more.

Electronics are big in Lothian. There are 175 electronics firms employing some 16,000 people. In terms of production, Mitsubishi Livingston has delivered the fastest growth of any plant outside Japan. NEC are currently re-investing over £530 million to produce the next generation of memory chips. Other top names here include Motorola, Sun Microsystems and Hewlett Packard. In turn they have spawned hundreds of service companies. And there's plenty of space for more, no matter how big or small. Find out how you might fit in. Call 0131 313 4000.

investin
Scotland's centre of excellence
LOTHIAN

هكذا من الاصل

Gilts and equities suffer losses

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

BANKS

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

BUILDING MATERIALS

CHEMICALS

DISTRIBUTORS

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1995/6 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
244	180	Quadramatic	244	+ 3	4.2	15.1
31	14½	Quadrant Grp	15	- 1	2.7	41.9
73	60	Radiant Metal	65			
68	38	Ransomes	68	+ 1		18.9
86	55½	Record	66		7.1	17.0
291	180	Renold	269		2.5	15.2
58	32½	Richards Group	33		8.5	9.8
99	66	Richardson West	88		5.3	
232	148	Rolls-Royce	217	- 2	2.9	25.6
208	158½	Rotork	208	+ 2	3.3	
183	143	Rubicon†	166		4.1	16.5
1568¾	1034¾	SKF 'B'	1496½	- 31½	3.5	
114	67	Senior Eng	105	- 1	4.1	37.1
245	49	Smith-Bird▼	239	- 8	1.7	
869	498	Siebert	865	+ 1	1.8	24.0
99	67	Simon Eng	83	- 1	1.0	31.4
196	79	Six Hundred	192		1.5	13.8
705	473	Smiths Ind	686	- 6	2.8	21.8
714	431	Spirax-Sarco†	714	+ 4	2.3	21.1
311	227	Sterling Ind	300		3.2	15.0
491	328	TI†	476	+ 3	3.2	18.4
102	92	Tomkins (E)®	95		7.4	13.9
101	51	Transtec	91		1.9	
184	127	Tugler Lloyd	168	+ 8	5.7	12.5
150	133	Unicorn Intl	138		5.0	11.5
18	14	Utd Inds	15		3.1	12.0
15½	5	Verson	13½			
302	162	Vickers†	259	- 1	3.2	16.6
14½	8½	Villiers Grp	13½			
770	506	Vitec	761		1.7	14.4
968	732	Vosper Thorny	836	+ 2	3.3	15.1
516	388	Wagon Ind	418	- 1	5.7	12.0
293	199	Weir	258	- 2	3.7	
256	186	Wellington Hdgt	230		4.0	
58½	36	Wellman	49½		4.2	10.8
503	363	Whitecroft	405	+ 4	3.6	
143½	75	Widney†	75	- 1	5.7	8.7

ELECTRICITY

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1995/6 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
175	109	Adwest	139	- 1	7.1	33.0
294	153	Airflow Stream	268	- 2	3.7	6.3
567	440	Avon Rubber	567	+ 7	3.0	13.8
72½	49½	BSG	71½	+ ½	5.8	
340	273	Berisford	308		2.7	
29	17	Boustead†	28		4.5	
367	175	ERF	178		3.2	10.5

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

HEALTHCARE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1995/6 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
509	318	Candover	508	+ 3	3.3	
62½	34½	Central Euro Grwth	61½		0.9	
214	161	Conti Asset†	214		1.8	78.8
80	67	Danae Inv Inc	67		14.9	7.8
345	278	Derby Cap	335			
166	142	Derby Inc	142	- 1	17.0	7.3
744	617	Dunedin Inc G	691½	+ ½	5.1	
97	73	Dunedin Japan	89½	+ 1		
337	296	Dunedin Smlr	337	+ 3	3.3	43.3
42	16	Dunedin Wts	21	+ 1½		
867	678	Dunedin Wwide	838	+ 3	1.4	73.1
115½	82½	Edin Dragon	108	- ½		
43½	21½	Edinburgh Ince	27½			
345	281	Edinburgh	327		3.7	31.5
176	127	EFM Japan	163	+ 3½		
379	307	Electra Inv	369	- 1	2.5	58.9
245	180	Electric Gen	236	+ 2	1.8	62.7
162	108	English Scot▼	149	+ 1		
389	273	European Asset	388		1.6	
209	147½	Fidelity Euro Valt	209	- 1	0.3	
83	62½	Fidelity Jap Valt	74½		0.2	
113	81	Fidelity Spec Val	113	+ 2	0.6	
179	149	Finsbury 'A'	178		3.4	57.3
95	62	First Spanish	94	- 1	0.3	
200½	128½	Fmo Am Chile	190½		2.6	
51½	15½	Fmo Am Wts	30½			
338	267	Fleming Amer†	310½	+ 3½	1.0	
74	51½	Fleming Chinese	61½		1.0	72.1
44	20	Fleming Ch Wts	27			
269	198	Fleming Claver	268		2.9	33.7
387	288½	Fleming Contl	379	+ 1	1.1	
160	125	Fleming Em Mkt	152	+ 1		
258	199	Fleming Enign	251		2.6	46.8
388	278½	Fleming F Ext	365	+ 3	0.5	
411	327	Fleming Fledgt	409		0.9	
105	90	Fleming Hi Inc†	100	- ½	5.8	20.5
87	51½	Fleming Indian	60½			
46	24	Fleming In Wts	37½			
43	29	Fleming Intl	39½		11.8	10.8
280	203	Fleming Japan	264	+ 4		
306½	252½	Fleming Merc†	306	+ ½	3.1	
114	72½	Fleming Nat Resl	108		0.6	
366	269	Fleming Overs†	345	+ 4	1.7	60.8
168	124	Foreign & Col	157	- ½	1.7	
113	91	For & Col Inc Grth†	101		4.0	29.7
120½	93	Frgn Emg Mkts	111			
93½	67½	Frgn Enterprise†	93½		1.6	57.4
287	204½	Frgn Eurotst	284		0.6	
142	115	Frgn German	136	+ 1	0.5	
204½	137½	Frgn Pacific	192½		0.9	77.0

1995/6 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
99	69	J Fry 3rd Ut	70		12.1	8.7
94	66	J Fry Euro Ut	69		8.0	12.6
251	174	JF Fledg Jap	232	+ 2		
97	74	Jupiter Ex Inc	74		13.2	8.1
16	4	Jupiter Ex IncWt	4	- 1		
128	98	Jupiter Intl Grnt	108		4.3	
272	194	Kleinwt Chrt	264½		2.6	46.7
130	96½	Kleinwt E Mkt	127½			
141	110	Kleinwt Enl	141	+ 1		
89	73	Kleinwt Euro Pvt	88½		3.2	39.1
27½	18½	Kleinwt Euro Wts	22			
91	74	Kleinwt H Inc†	80	+ 1	13.4	8.6
297	213	Kleinwt O'seas†	285	+ 2½	1.6	
155	111	Kleinwt Smlr	155		2.7	
605½	427½	Korea—Euro	550½	+ 1	0.1	
125½	71	Latin American	104½	+ ½		
1007	718	Law Debenture†	986	+ 1	2.9	
107	77	Lloyds Sm Cap	107			
29½	25½	Lloyds Sm Divt	26½		18.2	
133	102	Lloyds Sm Pfgt	133		3.6	
178	160	Lon St Lawrence	169		4.7	27.8
366	283	Lowland	342		3.7	30.4
1387½	975	Lydenburg	1100		1.9	43.0

LEISURE & HOTELS

1995/6 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
398	352	First Leisure†	384	- 3	2.5	22.3
406	224½	Forte†	348	- 1	3.1	24.0
175	133	Friendly Hotels	148	+ 1	4.8	17.3
742	476	Granada†	712	- 6	2.1	17.2
38	16	Hi-Tec Sports	28		5.7	
188	96	Hornby©	189		3.3	16.3
513	248	Hazelock	488	- 2	2.2	18.9
243	134	Jurys Hotel	228½		3.5	14.6
28	14½	Kunick	25½	- ½	2.8	22.5
197	122	Ladbroke†	187	- 6	4.0	30.3
519	264	London Clubs	514	+ 5	3.4	18.4
287	132	Man Utd	282	- 4	2.1	9.1
97½	58	Mandarin Orntl	82	- ½	4.4	17.5
110	66	Northern	110	+ 1	4.6	12.2
141	76	Prism Leisure	123		5.1	8.6
36	29	Queensborough	31			
21	5½	Queens Moat	20	- ½		
510½	358	Rank Orgt	482	- 7	3.5	13.4
37½	26	Ryan Hotels E	36		4.5	12.6
1318	845	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1318		1.3	52.4
213	160	Sinclair (Wm)†	177		5.4	11.4
104	74½	Stakis†	100	+ 1	2.2	21.1
460	314	Stanley Leisure	458		1.7	23.8

MEDIA

MINING

OIL & GAS

OTHER FINANCIAL

PHARMACEUTICALS

PRINTING & PAPER

PROPERTY

RETAILERS, FOOD

RETAILERS, GENERAL

SUPPORT SERVICES

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TEXTILES & APPAREL

TRANSPORT

WATER

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

LONGS (over 15 years)

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:

When you relocate staff do you send them off with confidence?

You relocate key employees for positive reasons.
So don't let the negatives get in the way.
Call in Black Horse Relocation. Home sale, finance, expenses management, tax, schools, moving logistics, partners' careers. We take care of everything.
All you have to do is relax.

MAKE THE FIRST OF MANY SUCCESSFUL MOVES
FREEPHONE 0800 371647 FOR AN INFORMATION PACK
T795.B/N

Black Horse Relocation
The best move you'll ever make

Source: Reuters

AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
01895 259 783

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Groland Amer	210 40	222.70	+ 0.07	0.22
Groland Equity	271 10	288.40	- 2.40	1.91
Groland Euro	270 30	285.90	+ 0.10	0.45
Groland Expt Bd	129 10	133 80		0.72
Groland Gilt	75 46	77 79	- 0.06	6.39
Groland Japan	179 60	190.00	+ 2.10	

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
01203 553 231

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
General Acc	632 50	672 90†	- 2.70	2.68
General Inc	537 30	571 70†	- 2.30	2.68
UK Growth Acc	429 10	456.50	- 2.40	2.85
UK Growth Inc	285.80	304 10	- 1.70	2.85
Higher Inc Acc	774.90	824.40	- 4.20	4.28
Higher Inc Inc	431.10	458 70	- 2.40	4.28
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	204.30	215 70†	- 0.10	5.71
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	91 39	96.53†	- 0.05	5.71
Nth America	364 10	387 40	- 3.30	
Europe	349.30	371.60†	- 1.40	0.52
Bnz Euroff	84.99	90 42	- 0.65	3.05
Bri Frndmtls Acc	113.20	120 50†	0.30	4.88
Bri Fndmtls Inc	77 58	82.52†	- 0.21	4.88
Global Opps	101.50	108.00	+ 0.20	0.30
Balanced Acc	61 99	65.95	- 0.17	2.73
Balanced Inc	59.32	63 11	- 0.17	2.73
Japan Acc	48.45	51.55†	+ 0.80	..
Pac Basin Acc	425 90	453 10	- 1.70	0.77

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0345 717 373

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Gilt & Fixed Int	127 40	135.10†	+ 0.30	7.40
High Inc Equity	179 60	192.10	- 1.20	4.38
Worldwide Bond	289 40	306 90†	+ 0.60	4.56
American Growth	362.20	387.50	- 0.50	0.72
Asian Pacific	347 70	371 90	- 1.30	0.22
Assets & Earnings	297 50	316.50	- 1.70	2.76
Euro Capital Acc	176 90	189.20	- 0.60	0.55
Extra Inc	44 06	46.87†	- 0.13	5.58
General	369 70	386 90†	- 1.90	2.90
Global Opps	65 72	69.92	- 0.03	0.43
Japan	128 10	137 00	+ 1.30	
Managed Inc	47 69	50 73†	- 0.12	4.58
Mastertrust	164 80	176 30	- 0.10	1.34
US Emerging Cos	196 10	208.60	- 1.60	
Ethical	79 01	84 05	- 0.42	2.49
International	137 90	146 70	- 0.10	0.76

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 0708

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Cazenove Portfolio	98 13	104 62	+ 0.21	2.44
American Portfolio	119 54	126.90	+ 1.20	0.89
European Portfolio	127.21	135.51	+ 1.88	0.42
High Income	50.11	50.22	- 0.04	7.98
Japanese Portfolio	70 75	75 24†	+ 0.87	.
Pacific Portfolio	160.92	173.04	- 0.69	1.37
UK Inc & Growth	93.69	100 16		2.82
Utility & Bond	57 37	58.01	- 0.04	6.58

CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG
0171 588 1815

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Inv Fund	733.01	744 09		4.35
Fxd Int Sec	151.30	151.80	..	9.36

COIF CHARITY FUNDS
0171 588 1815

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Investment Inc	731.42	742.49		4.36
Investment Acc	532.62	630 11		
Fixed Int Inc	125.46	125.96		9.13
Fixed Int Acc	213.36	214.22		

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 407 5966

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Beckman Intl	87 90	93.74	...	3.20
Beck Bio-Tech	47 77	51 45		.
Acorn Ethical Tst	173.59	182.28		0.60
City Fin Assets	78 48	82.41		1.98
City Fin America	115.49	121.27†	...	..
City Fin Intl	93.43	98.11		0.82
City Fin Japan	148.00	155.41		
Friars Hse Cap	320.05	340.48		2.20
Friars Hse Inc	200 50	213.30		4.17
Buckley Wrld Grth	148.93	157.88†		.
Falmont Cap Gth	151 79	159 78		
Fairmount Intl	161 66	170.38		
J Sld Inc/Gth Inc	57 83	60.73	.	1.58

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Emerging Markets	59 03	62.63†	+ 0.17	

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0800 373 393

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Grwth	78.53	83.54	- 0.28	
Dragon Growth	75.23	80.45	- 0.65	0.32
Equity High Inc	87 80	93.40†	- 0.37	4.30
-do- Accum	123.58	131 47	- 0.52	4.30

JUPITER UT MGRS LTD
0171 581 3020

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
World Health	212.90	226.40	- 0.50	
Income #	198.71	211.39	- 0.39	4.04
UK Growth	78.86	83.89	+ 0.11	2.04
Intl Growth	87 16	92.71	- 0.15	0.46
Ecology	102.01	108.51	- 0.05	0.99
European	178.64	190 04	+ 0.16	
Far Eastern	323.70	344.30	+ 0.80	

MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD
01620 825867

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced Fd #	1479.60	1499 90		2.90
Income #	1026.40	1043.50		4.00

MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0191 222 4242

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Maldon General	161 10	165.40		3.66

For Manulife see Canada Life

RAILTRACK Share Offer

REGISTER EARLY TO WIN A HOLIDAY IN THE CARIBBEAN ON FREEPHONE

0800 92 93 94

HARGREAVES LANSDOWN STOCKBROKERS LTD

Kendal House, 4 Brighton Mews, Clifton, Bristol BS8 2NX Regulated by the SFA

Register now to receive :-

- FULL REPORT ON RAILTRACK WHEN THE OFFER OPENS
- OWN CERTIFICATE FOR ALL SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS
- PRIZE DRAW FOR ALL REGISTRANTS
  1st prize luxury holiday for 2 in Barbados
  2nd prize trip on the Orient Express
- CHILDREN'S PRIZE DRAW FOR MODEL RAILWAY ENGINES

This advertisement is issued by, and is the responsibility solely of, Hargreaves Lansdown, which is acting as a Share Shop in relation to the Railtrack Share Offer. A Share Shop making an application for Shares on your behalf in the Offer will be acting as your agent and has no authority to act for HM Treasury or any other person. Shares will be sold by HM Treasury in the Offer solely on the basis of information in the Prospectus to be issued in connection with the Offer. The SFA do not regulate the prize draw

Share Shop

KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS
Dealers: 0171 956 7354

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	97 40	100.80†	+ 0.30	7.73
Gilt Yield	115.90	121.90†	+ 0.10	6.97
Global Income	237 80	246 60†		3.51
High Yield	147.90	157 30	- 0.70	5.70
-do- Accum	470 60	500 60	- 2.10	5.70
Smllr Cos Div	59.54	63.34†	+ 0.21	3.28
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	146.50	155.90	- 0.40	
Asian Growth	361 00	384 00	- 2.10	0.21
-do- Accum	424.30	451 30	- 2.40	0.21
North American	107.00	113.80	+ 0.21	0.23

MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD
01244 680 066

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
M & S Inv Ptflo	172.30	177 70	- 0.40	2.34
-do- Accum	202.30	208 50	- 0.50	2.34
UK Sel Ptflio	150.40	155 00	- 0.70	2.53
-do- Accum	178 70	184.30	- 0.80	2.53

MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD
01204 364 842

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Managed Tst	71.54	76.10	. .	3.94

MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD
0131 479 4546

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Intl Income	81.17	86.17†	- 0.22	3.86

هكذا من الاصل

TO ADVERTISE
CALL: 0171 481 1986

PROPERTY

FAX:
0171 782 7828

LONDON PROPERTY

This *Easter* weekend, drop in for a glass, a bite, some words of wisdom and a peek at our 5 new showhomes.

2 BED APTS *from* £72,850
2 BED HOUSES *from* £79,350
3 BED HOUSES *from* £93,350

It's Easter and it's all happening at Britannia Village.

Why not change whatever plans you've made for any of the four days and drop in on the Royal Victoria Dock, where Wimpey Homes are embarking on the most exciting waterside development in London.

Waiting for your inspection are our five new fully furnished show homes, and our homebuying advisers will be delighted to show you round and answer any questions you may have.

Also on hand, at selected times, will be an Independent Financial Adviser who'll tell you everything you ever wanted to know about mortgages and finance, without charging you a penny, and a solicitor who'll be happy to offer free legal advice on buying one of these modern waterside homes.

Still not tempted? Then how about something nice to eat and a glass of wine to wash it down. On the house.

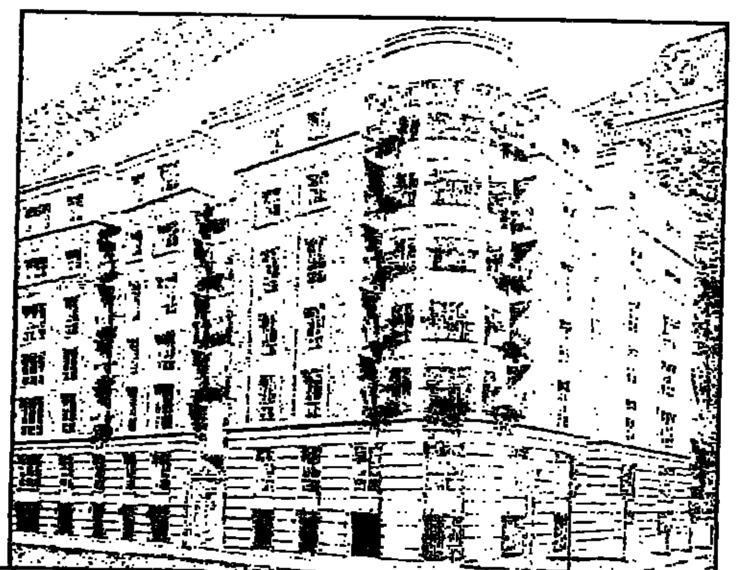
Britannia Village is open from 10am to 6pm all four days of Easter. For further information and details of the weekend's events, call Sheila Whitbread or Steve Osmond on 0171 474 2200.
http://www.wimpey.co.uk/wimpey/britvlg.htm

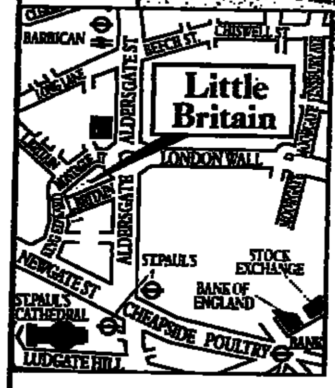
Wimpey Homes

BRITANNIA VILLAGE
Royal Victoria Dock

MILTON HOUSE AT LITTLE BRITAIN

THE PERFECT BASE FOR THE CITY





Situated on Postman's Park these beautifully appointed apartments are just a few hundred yards from St Paul's and within strolling distance of the Stock Exchange and the Bank of England.

At Little Britain you can avoid the stress, strain and expense of commuting and have more time to enjoy a better lifestyle. The new show apartment is open every day 10am to 6pm. Prices from £146,750.

Telephone 0171 600 6155.

ST GEORGE

NEW HOMES

RELAX & ENJOY A NEW GLEESON HOME

☎ FREEPHONE 0800 830830 ☎

---- SOUTH YORKSHIRE ----

Oakridge, Stannington
3 Bed Houses only remaining from £76,950 to £89,950

Kiveton Gardens, Kiveton Park
2 Bed Mews Houses from £43,950
2 Bed Bungalows from £64,500
3 & 4 Bed Det Houses from £66,950

The Coppice, Dore
3 & 4 Bed Det Houses from £94,950 to £120,000

---- BEDFORDSHIRE ----

Milliners Court, Wilstead
2, 3, 4 Bed Houses from £52,500

Briarfield, Maulden
4 Bed Det Houses from £110,000

---- CAMBRIDGESHIRE ----

Woodcote Park, Wisbech
4 Bed Det Houses from £75,000

Pinewood Gardens, Whittlesey
1, 2 Bed Houses from £29,950

Honeysome Grange, Chatteris
2, 3, 4 Bed Det Houses from £36,500

---- LANCASHIRE ----

Hambleton Grange, Longton
4 Bed Det Houses from £96,000
2 Bed Det Bungalows from £78,500

Sandpiper Court, Cleveleys
1 & 2 Bed Retirement Homes from £49,950
ONLY 3 REMAINING

Foxcroft, Burnley
4 Bed Det Houses from £88,500
3 Bed Det Houses from £69,950
2 Bed Mews Houses from £45,000

Moorland Green, Clayton Le Moors
One only 2 Bed Det Bungalow £59,950
4 Bed Det Houses from £74,950

Longridge Heath, Brierfield
3 Bed Det Houses from £68,000
3 Bed Det Bungalows from £78,000
One Only 2 Bed Det Bungalow £67,500

Plus
- LOW START FINANCE
- HOME EXCHANGE PLAN
- LOSS OF VALUE REPAYMENT COVER

Ask about the above Home Comfort Plans

Clarence Park, Blackburn
4/5 Bed Houses from £145,000 to £162,000

Highmoor Park, Clitheroe
2 Bed Mews Houses from £55,000
3/4 Bed Det Houses from £78,500 to £97,500

Woodrush, Morecambe
4 Bed Det Houses from £112,000
2 & 3 Bed Det Bungalows from £75,500

---- LEICESTERSHIRE ----

Firtree Close, Barwell
4 Bed Det House ONE REMAINING £75,000

---- OXFORDSHIRE ----

Cottrell's Mede, Grove
4 Bed Detached Houses from £111,000

---- SURREY ----

The Wrys, Carshalton
2 & 3 Bed Houses to be released

---- SUSSEX ----

The Swallows, Billingshurst
4 Bed Det Houses LAST TWO REMAINING from £149,000

Chapelfields, Cuckfield
3 and 4 Bed Houses from £104,950

Chapelfields, Cuckfield - Conversion
LAST 1 BED REMAINING £54,950 in Grade II Listed Building
1 Bed Bungalows from £59,950

Berrylands Farm, Sayers Common
3 & 4 Bed Houses from £82,500

Nightingale Wood, Uckfield
3 & 4 Bed Houses from £89,950

Burghdown Place, Burgess Hill
2 & 3 Bed Houses from £59,995

The Limes, Chichester
5 Bed Houses from £120,000
1 & 2 Bed Apartments from £59,950

Squirrels Reach, Nutbourne
1 & 2 Bed Apartments from £53,950
2 & 3 Bed Houses from £67,500

---- WILTSHIRE ----

Beechfield Park, Corsham
4 & 5 Bed Executive Homes from £195,000
Also to be released a range of new and refurbished apartments and houses from 1 to 4 bedrooms

Butterfield Down, Amesbury
2 Bed Houses from £56,950
3 Bed Houses from £69,950
4 Bed Houses from £119,750

Details correct at time of going to press.

N/TT/27-3

GLEESON HOMES

NEW HOMES

NO DEPOSIT NO PROBLEM!

At Fairclough Homes, we like to remove obstacles to make every move as smooth as possible. That's why to us No Deposit means No Problem. Even without the 5% deposit, you still have the freedom to enjoy all the comforts of a new Fairclough home because, subject to status, we'll pay it for you. Those with a deposit can use it to take advantage of our HomeMaker scheme to further enhance the specification of their new home.

SELL FAST. MOVE QUICK.

If the luxury of a top quality home appeals to you but you have yet to sell your present home, Fairclough can take away the uncertainty. Opt for our *100% Full Value Part Exchange Scheme* and we could consider buying your existing home (subject to the usual requirements), giving you the freedom to move NOW and begin enjoying that luxury sooner than you think.

100% FULL Value

HERTFORD
PRINCES MEWS
A development of 2 and 3 bedroom homes close to the A10 offering easy access to London.
from £69,450
Tel: 0992 [illegible] (24 hours)

BISHOP'S STORTFORD
SOVEREIGN MEWS
A small development of luxury 4 bedroom detached homes.
from £139,950
Tel: [illegible] (24 hours)

HERTFORD
QUEENSGATE
Quality 3 and 4 bedroom detached homes with a high specification.
from £112,950
Tel: [illegible] (24 hours)

HERTFORD
KINGSHURST
A superb development of luxury 4 bedroom detached homes.
from £149,950
Tel: [illegible] (24 hours)

MOST SHOW HOMES OPEN 10AM - 5.30PM 7 DAYS A WEEK

PERSONALISE YOUR HOME with HomeMaker

Buying a new home is a very personal decision, which is why we offer Fairclough's award winning HomeMaker scheme. With the freedom to choose from a wide range of options - some free - to enhance the already high specifications, you can tailor your new home to suit your personal tastes and requirements.

Fairclough Homes
Come home to quality

FRANCE

ALL FRANCE 'The Hexagon' New full colour brochure 100s of properties. For free copy phone or fax 01497 831771

BORDEAUX 1hr. Farmhouse 6 bd/3 bth Pool. 2½ acrs £11,000 income 1996. £100,000 Domus Abroad 0171 431 4692

EASTERN FRENCH PYRENEES
Only 35 miles from Mediterranean: old farmhouse partially converted. 5 bedrooms plus kitchen/ bathroom, with similar area easy to convert. Barn & garage, 50 ha of pasture.
Private sale: 750,000 FF.
Call: (33).68.59.91.82.

SOUTH OF FRANCE ROUSSILLON
Modern 3 bed Villa with large swimming pool in sunny private situation with panoramic views. Excellent order. 1½ acres land. Outside pretty hilltop village close to the Med. and Spain.
FF 1,300,000
Phone/Fax (33) 68394297

TALLOIRES Lake Annecy, France. English owner has 2 bed apartment for sale in small traditional setting, centre of village, view of lake from balcony. Price 900,000FF Mr. Stubbs 0113 242 6262 (office hours).

CANNES MARINA
Penthouse apartment with massive roof garden.
Fabulous views from Cap d'Antibes to the Estoril.
£665,000
For Details Tel: 01306 711933
or 0033 93 49 27 10

BUY without Commission. Free! Receive regularly, at your home, a selection of real estate corresponding to your demand. Fax (33) 67 63 63 19, or write to: Le Partenaire Europeen 34297 Montpellier cedex 5/France.

COTE D'AZUR CANNES-MARINA
Small flat in luxury block facing marina - private sale. Golf, tennis swimming pool, boating all on site. Beach ½ mile. Private parking. Easy access to good shopping & auto route. Must sell.
Bargain price £89,000 ono
Tel: 01727 845915.

PORTUGAL

ALGARVE - Homes with distinction. Architecturally designed. Superbly constructed in locations to suit. Contact Portogoa Tel. 0181 810 0786 UK or Fax 00351 82 341295 P.

ALGARVE. Almancil to Lagos. Vale do Lobo, Quinta do Lago, Carvoeiro. Villas & apartments. For personal service Prime Property Int. 01628 778841.

ALGARVE
PARQUE DA FLORESTA
GOLF & LEISURE RESORT with views over the stunning par 72 course to the sea, Tennis Courts, Championship Bowls, Fitness Centre, Restaurants & Bar. ■ 4 Ownership Option from £28,000 and Golf Village Houses from £89,500. ■ Luxury Villas with pool from £169,000. All owners enjoy prefered tee off times & 50% off green fees.
For details & colour brochure please call Andrew Burridge:
Tel. 01223 316820
A QUALITY DEVELOPMENT FROM Vigia

PORTUGAL

ALGARVE
Delightful 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom house. Fully furnished, Satellite TV, private pool, BBQ, garage, Mini-Moke. 2 acres, access to amenities, golf, sports, beach.
£155,000 ono
TEL: 01483 560135.

OVERSEAS PROPERTY

HUNGARY/AUSTRIAN BORDER.
HUNGARIAN HOUSE
14,769 sqm land, electricity, water, telephone. £19,500
ADJACENT BUILDING PLOT
suitable for 3 houses 15,000 sqm with all services. £18,700.
2 hrs from Vienna. Outstanding beauty spot, most beautiful pine tree forest, conservation area
01923 270006 (Private Sale).

OVERSEAS PROPERTY

TAYLOR WOODROW Gibraltar Luxury Apartments & Penthouses from £146k. Major Tax Benefits. Details & Brochure UK 01727 836303 / 00 350 40650

KENYA
DIANI BEACH, 2.1 ha. privately owned land with 7 identical recently constructed comfortable villa's each with 2 double bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Fully landscaped with luxurious gardens. 400 metres from the blue ocean and white beaches, near 18 holes Golf-course, restaurants etc. Opportunity as holiday-or corporate resort, residential complex or other development.
All-in-price: USD. 445,000,00
For details contact:
C.W. van Eech
the Netherlands
Tel: +31 35 53 81 386
Fax + 31.35 53 81 334

BALEARICS

TAYLOR WOODROW Menorca Phase III, 2 & 3 bed apartments, golf course location, heated swimming pools, from £47,500. 3 day inspection visits available. For more information. Tel 0181 893 2625.

CARIBBEAN

BARBADOS.
Luxury townhouse in fashionable country club resort, pool, tennis & golf. Private co-ownership arrangement - 8 weeks per annum.
£18,000
TEL: 01258 704 651.

GREECE

DELECTABLE little cottage in peaceful Mani. Flowery garden, terrace overlooking sea, sunset. Short walk, glorious sandy beaches. £27K 0181 789 6372

SPAIN

COSTA BLANCA
New & Resale
VILLAS & APARTMENTS
From £20,000
Ask for Country Villas list
From £35,000
COLOUR BROCHURE:
O.H.H. 71 Yockley Close Camberley Surrey GU15 1QQ
01276 676281

SOTOGRANDE
Luxury duplex penthouse with superb views over manicured gardens to sea and private beach. Attractive mountain views at rear. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, (2 ensuite), 4 terraces, sun all day. Lift. Very secure.
39m Pesetas
will exch smaller apt or sell ½ share
Tel: 01275 854616.

To the run-down manor born

Rachel Kelly on why a squire and his wife are swapping suburbia for an old, cold, damp family pile

STEVE FORREST/GUZELIAN

Sir James and Lady Graham hope to restore their ancestral home, Norton Conyers in Wath, North Yorkshire, to its former glory

When Sir Reginald Graham moved into Norton Conyers in 1886, there were receptions in the nearby villages, flags and banners in every street. Church bells rang. As he approached the house, near Ripon in North Yorkshire, the horses were removed from his carriage and it was drawn by the tenantry and local gentlemen almost a mile to the house. He was greeted by a row of uniformed staff.

This week, a hundred years later, Sir Reginald's great-grandson, Sir James Graham, and his wife, Lady Graham, are moving into Norton Conyers. Yet this time the Grahams are entering by the back door. There will be no staff in attendance and supper will be an instant Marks & Spencer meal popped in the Aga.

It is a courageous step. At a time of their lives when contemporaries are considering a move into retirement bungalows, the Grahams, who are in their mid-fifties, are taking up residence in a crumbling stately pile with 40 rooms and a great hall but no central heating.

The house, built in about 1500 by an unknown architect, has a Grade I listed interior and is famous as the model for Thornfield Hall, home of the saturnine Mr Rochester in Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*.

The description in the novel fits the house exactly. "Three storeys high, of proportions not vast, though considerable; a gentleman's manor house, not a nobleman's seat." True to the novel, there is a rookery, a sunken fence and a wide oak staircase.

Brontë came across gossip about a deranged woman in the family who had once been confined in an attic room at Norton Conyers. Eight years later *Jane Eyre* was published. The bare, whitewashed room is still there — even more eerily cold than the rest of the house, the day I visited.

"We feel moving here is the natural thing to do," says Lady Graham. "My husband has a deep-seated attachment to the house and a sense of duty to pass it on in better shape. The house needs such a lot of work on it."

Sir James inherited Norton Conyers, where he was born and brought up, in 1984. Since then, extensive repairs have been carried out to make the house more habitable.

"The lead flashings between the slates had so many little holes in them that they looked like pincushions," recalls Sir James. "I realised that simply loving the house and being born here was not enough. I knew too little about its architectural history and its structure. We needed outside expertise to tackle such a big and complex task."

Enter English Heritage. The organisation contributed its first grant between 1984 and 1988, when it gave £22,900 towards stopping the water coming in and repairing the 18th-century orangery. A futher grant is being spent on guttering repairs and refurbishing the 18th-century stable block and 17th-century clock tower.

Although the house as it stands dates from the 16th century, there has been a manor house on the site since the Norman Conquest. It is mentioned in the Domesday Book, when it belonged to a Norman family named Conyers.

In the 14th century the manor was bought by the Nortons, Roman Catholics who rallied to Mary Queen of Scots in the rising of the North against Queen Elizabeth I and were punished by having their estates confiscated.

Sir Richard Graham, the 1st Baronet and direct ancestor of the present owner, the 11th Baronet Sir James, bought the house in 1624. As one of the King's Gentlemen of the Horse, he fought for Charles I at the Battle of Edgehill in the Civil War in 1642. Subsequently the Parliamentarians fined him heavily for his Royalist support.

To reoccupy their family seat, the present-day Grahams are moving from their four-bedroom Victorian semi-detached home in Bedford, which would fit in a small corner of the Great Hall. Lady Graham has taken early retirement from her job as a museum curator, which until recently kept them in the South.

"Our friends think we are mad," says Lady Graham. "The only warm room is the kitchen because it has an Aga. But my sister gave me a nice woolly hat with side-flaps and I wear extra socks."

The Grahams, who have no children, hope to continue sympathetically restoring the house, which is open to the public and attracts 2,000 visitors a year.

"We see ourselves as conservationists, not restorers," says Lady Graham. "Repairs are being done in such a way that they don't shout at the visitor 'Look! I've been repaired'."

The house needs a further £5 million spent on repairing the roof of the main house and an adjoining stable block. The Grahams hope for extra funds from English Heritage or the National Heritage Memorial Fund.

The sums are huge, but this house is a magnificent example of an early squire's house and has been used as the setting for one of the classics of English literature. It is worth saving.

● *Norton Conyers is off the A61 near Ripon (01765 640333)*

Listed stately home is centre of attention again

A new housing development is to take its lead from Northwick Park

A Gloucestershire stately home which had fallen into disrepair is being reborn as the centrepiece of a Cotswolds village.

The Historic Houses Association, which represents 4,000 stately home owners, says it believes the scheme is the first of its kind. Forty houses and flats are being built in the parkland surrounding Northwick Park, Blockley, a Grade I listed mansion three miles from Chipping Campden and once owned by the Spencer-Churchill family.

Seven houses have been completed, and six sold for prices ranging from £85,000 to £250,000 for a four-bedroom house through the agents Knight Frank. The scheme will be completed in 18 months' time.

The house itself and its coach houses, stables, granary, orangery and dovecote were converted six years ago. Clarendon Properties, the developers, spent £1.8 million restoring the house and converting it into six flats, two on each floor, and in return were granted permission by Cotswolds District Council to build the new homes in local stone as part of the "enabling development". The 35-acre park has been freshly planted with oak and ash and the estate walls rebuilt.

The original house, known for its magnificent unaltered west elevation, was built in 1686, and was extensively remodelled in 1723 by Sir John Rushout using the fashionable architect Lord Burlington. The estate passed to the Spencer-Churchill family and remained with them until the death of Captain Spencer Churchill in the early 1960s. The house then became a drug rehabilitation centre, and had stood empty for several years when the developers bought it in 1989. It had dry rot, woodworm and a leaking roof.

The new houses, which have tiled or slate roofs, are in keeping with traditional local architecture. There are four hard tennis courts and an outdoor swimming pool is to be built.

Conservationist and heritage bodies say that such developments need to be done with care. William Proby, of the Historic Houses Association, says: "Developers must be careful not to destroy the setting of the house by inappropriate buildings."

RACHEL KELLY

Northwick Park is the centrepiece of a new Cotswolds village

PORTUGAL

MOWLEM
Exclusive golf and country club properties
Algarve • Portugal
From £80,000 to £500,000
Viewing weekends available
Contact us now for brochure
Tel: 01737 242259 Fax: 01737 226055
e-mail: alto@mail.telepac.pt
internet: http://www.nexus-pt.com/alto
ALTO

SPAIN

MARBELLA/P.BANUS, Golf/Beach & res. zones. Villas, apts. Direct sales. Finance avail. Tel 95 2814324. Fax 95 2814330.

TAYLOR WOODROW Moraira, Costa Blanca, apartments & town houses from £73,500. New villa development commencing soon. 3 day inspection visits available. For more information Tel 0181 893 2525.

USA

FLORIDA – GULF COAST.
Beautiful, spacious, 2 beds, 2 baths + study, waterfront home. In delightful rural setting. Overlooking own private dock. Loaded with extras and all facilities nearby. $113,000.
Tel: 0181 201 9931

FLORIDA.
Beautiful Sarasota Bay, luxury waterfront 2873 sq ft home. 2 Lanai(decks), 2 dbl receps, 2 dbl beds, 2 bths, study/3 bed, kit/breakfast room, dbl garage, own elevator, on exclusive island Bird sanctuary with pools, tennis courts & 24 hr guard.
£169,000.
Tel:01481 39874.

FLORIDA HOMES Orlando and Gulf Coast. Guaranteed rental schemes. FPC 01202 296098

BERKSHIRE

NR READING
- ADMIRAL HOMES
We could buy your house in part exchange for a superb new 4 & 5 bed detached home in village of Burghfield Common - 4 miles sth of Reading & 6 miles from Junc 12, M4. 4 bed houses from £175,950. 1 only 5 bed hse at £209,950. Show Home open 10am-5pm Thursday - Monday
01734 831169

BERKSHIRE

Picturesque
COOKHAM DEAN
Marlow 1½ miles
4 bed detached farmhse in 2½ acres of grounds. In an elevated position with superb views. Full planning permission for approx 2,500 sq ft of detached gges with accom over & club size all weather tennis court.
£375,000 F/h. (No chain)
01734 736666 (day)
01734 731632 (eves/wkends)

FINCHAMPSTEAD Charming thatched cottage in park-like grounds overlooking farmland & conveniently located to the market town of Wokingham OIRO price guide £485,000 Please tel Richard Worth Estate Agents 01734 796796

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

HUNTINGDON
UNIQUE NEW RIVERSIDE HOUSE OF EXCEPTIONAL ARCHITECTURAL QUALITY.
South facing directly onto a beautiful stretch of the River Great Ouse with the meadows beyond. 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 balconies. The large living space and terrace make it a superb home for entertaining. A rural prospect but only 1½ miles from Huntingdon station.
£310,000
01480 433073

HUNTINGDON Det 4 bed, lng, dining, study, dble gge, w/shop, no chain. £180,000. offers. 0181 882 9640 /0421 610333.

ESSEX

NR COLCHESTER. Country farmhouse circa 1700, private setting, approx 4 acres, tennis ct, s/pool, Essex barn. £250,000. 01255 870739.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

INDIVIDUAL SPLIT LEVEL HOUSE
On large plot, country lane between Risboro' and Wycombe. Refurbished as new, 3 beds, 1 ensuite, clks. Shower room, utility. New fitted kitchen. Spacious lounge, dining room. Large double garage & storage. Immediate possesion
£250,000
Tel: 01494 520919.

CORNWALL

S.E. CORNWALL
Charming renovated fisherman's cottage. 60 yards from beach in unspoilt village. Large kitchen/dining room, 2 recs, 2 beds with baths, walled garden.
£96,000
TEL: 01752-822114

DEVON

SUPERB MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE WITH 11 ACRES
Exeter/M5 - 3 Mls.
Individual architect designed, 5 yrs old. Coveted village edge, stunning views. Very special tranquil "secret" location yet mins to all amenities. Very spacious (c. 3,400sq. ft.) 5 beds, 3 baths, 4 receps, "Farmhouse" kit/brk, conservatory, office, extensive storage. Garage block, poss granny annex/studio. Secluded landscaped gdns, paddocks, woodland & stream.
O.I.R.O £385,000.
Details/photos
01392 811670
Private

A1 PROPERTY SEARCH. We find distinctive Devon homes for busy people. 01803 712613

DORSET

RINGWOOD Superb detached bungalow in good location. Very attractive features and elevations £120,000 FERNDOWN Overlooking golf course - very desirable and spacious 3 bedroomed luxury apartment in landscaped location. Extremely competitively priced at £140,000 For further information/appointment to view 01202 894496

HAMPSHIRE

STOCKBRIDGE.
In grnds of Little Dean House, last 2 remaining, 1 bed mews hse with balcony/patio/gge 2 bed flat with balcony/ reserved pkng. Wonderful countryside views. Inc in Service Charge (£750) bldng insurance, window cleaning, gardening, Aid-Call, external maintenance/lighting etc F/f Neff kit/cpts inc £75,000
CONNELL EST AGTS
01962 864444

LUXURY Waterfront Homes Port Solent 3 bedroom homes with balcony and yacht mooring. Enjoy the marine lifestyle and Port Solent's unique facilities for luxury and recreation. Available for immediate occupation:- Two only @ £129,950 Call Higgs & Hill Homes on 01705 210162

KENT

WEALD OF KENT, Biddenden. Small holding, 21 acres, 3 bed chalet bungalow. Outbuildings, stables, well maintained. £220,000 F/H. Contact Oliver Fisher 01580-714444

KENT

PLUCKLEY
Sunny clematis-clad 17C Grade II listed detached cottage with beams, inglenooks and glorious views, in small, friendly rural village 50 miles from London (BR Station 2 miles, London 1 hr 10 mins). Farmhouse kitchen, sitting room with woodburning stove, dining room, study, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, cloaks, GCH. Pretty garden with fruit trees, shrubs, old brick paths, brick garage and greenhouse. Plus further ½ acre with wooden garage. £159,950
Call 01233 840283 evenings and weekends.

KENT
BARGAIN
Home/income. Folkestone, prime location. Close harbour/shops. 7 letting rooms/sun deck. Comfortable owner's accomodation/patio, same owner 18 years. France 1½ hours away.
FREEHOLD - NO CHAIN
£98,500
TEL: 01303 256671

NR. AYLESFORD, Superb new oasthouse conversion (2200 sq ft) lounge, d.r., kitchen/breakfast, utility, W.C./cloaks, 4 beds, 2 bat. baths, garage & parking for several cars, magnificent views, add. land available. £240,000 Owlquest Ltd 01622 817999 (office) 01622 832577 (eve. & wknds)

NR. ROCHESTER 4 Superb individually designed new houses of character on a rural site of 1.6 acres. 5 beds, 3/4 baths, extremely spacious 2200-2900 sq ft. £248,000-£295,000 01622 832577 (Eve. & Wknds)

COUNTRY PROPERTY

4 Superb building plots. Arguably one of the finest residential development sites available on the South East Coast at the present time. Unrivalled views over the Channel to the French Coast. St Margarets Bay is a quiet unspoilt village situated midway between Dover and Deal. Canterbury 16 miles. Channel Tunnel 12 miles (distances approx). Planning pending for 4 substantial detached houses. Offers in excess of £150,000 per plot. Marshall & Clarke Tel: 01304 852960 /381622

WEALD OF KENT, Cranbrook. Det 3/4 bed period hse, 2 receps, kit/break rm, bathrm, clkrm, gdn, dbl gge. Town loc. £180,000 F/H. Contact Oliver Fisher 01580-714444

WEALD OF KENT, Rolvenden. Semi-det Oast. 3 beds, recep, dining hall, kit/break rm, bath, clkrm, loft area. Gge, gdn, com tennis ct. £179,950 F/H. Tel: Oliver Fisher 01580-714444

MIDDLESEX

HAREFIELD
Beautiful thatched 400 yr old Grade II period cottage set in 3 acres with inlet canal & own mooring. 2 beds, utility & kitchen, dining room, lounge, inglenook fireplace, wealth of oak beams. Seperate guest house bedroom, lounge, bed, kitchen, bathroom.
£325,000 Freehold.
Tel: 01895 822246 eves.

OXFORDSHIRE

STRATTON AUDLEY M40 5 miles. Well appointed 1st flr appt in former Manor House. Breakfast, kitchen, 3 large rooms. Gas CH. Comm grds. S/pool. Tel: Breckon & Breckon (01993) 811881.

English Courtyard have a limited number of luxury retirement cottages & apartments available at:-
Emmer Green, Reading
Ilminster, Somerset
Winterbourne Earls, Salisbury
Prices from £145,000 to £210,000
Freephone 0800 220858 quoting ref RA7
8 Holland Street Kensington W8 4LT English Courtyard 8 Holland Street Kensington W8 4LT

A breath of fresh sea air
SHOWHOME OPEN DAILY
CHANDLER'S REACH, ITCHENOR IS A DEVELOPMENT OF TWELVE 2, 3 AND 4 BEDROOM COTTAGES AND ONE APARTMENT LOCATED WITHIN AN AREA OF 'OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY' JUST 150 YARDS FROM CHICHESTER HARBOUR.
TELEPHONE OUR SELLING AGENTS, JACKSON STOPS & STAFF ON 01243 786316 FOR FULL DETAILS OF AVAILABILITY.
A DEVELOPMENT BY
PRIESTMERE

NEW HOMES

FREEPHONE SALES 0500 730 722

BERKSHIRE
WARFIELD NEAR BRACKNELL
4 bed homes from £144,950 5 bed home price £205,000
TEL (01344) 867878
WEST SUSSEX
CRAWLEY
Last 4 bed home price £124,950
TEL (01293) 515444
IFOLD NEAR CRANLEIGH
5 bed homes from £232,000 TEL (01483) 268822
CUCKFIELD
4 bed homes from £149,950 TEL (01444) 416657
BOXGROVE CHICHESTER
3, 4 & 5 bed homes from 94,950 - £184,950 TEL (01329) 822086
HAMPSHIRE
ZEBON COPSE FLEET
3 & 4 bed homes from £101,950 - £142,500 TEL (01252) 812620
SURREY
WOKING
2, 3 & 4 bed homes from £76,950 - £167,500
TEL (01483) 799995
LONDON
LONDON TULSE HILL SE24
3 bed terrace homes from £92,950
TEL (0181) 761 1737
KENT
SEVENOAKS
2 & 3 bed homes from £114,950 - £182,950
TEL (01732) 741212
DORSET
BOURNEMOUTH
2 bed apts from £72,950 TEL (01202) 767633
FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS
BERKSHIRE BRADFIELD PARK BRADFIELD
3 & 4 bed homes. TEL (01306) 730822

FREEPHONE SALES 0500 730 733

HERTFORDSHIRE
HARPENDEN
2 & 3 bed homes. Prices from £86,950
TEL (01582) 712219
REDBOURN
3 & 4 bed homes from £114,500
TEL (01727) 844044
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
MILTON KEYNES
4 bed homes, 3 bed bungalows from £95,000 - £141,950 TEL (01908) 679168
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
NORTHAMPTON
3 & 4 bed homes from £62,950 - £114,950
TEL (01604) 259410
NORTHAMPTON
4 & 5 bed homes from £189,000
TEL (01604) 675773
OXFORDSHIRE
OXFORD
1 & 2 bed apts., 2, 3 & 4 bed homes from £55,995 TEL (01865) 395473
BEDFORDSHIRE
BARTON LE CLAY
4 bed homes from £136,000
TEL (01582) 883217
FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS
BEDS WESTONING
3 & 4 bed homes.
TEL (01727) 844044

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS
BARCOMBE PARK PAIGNTON DEVON
PARAGON HEIGHTS PLYMPTON DEVON
MOORVIEW ALLER PARK NEWTON ABBOTT DEVON
EMPRESS MEWS DOUGLAS ISLE OF MAN
WINDSOR HEIGHTS ONCHAN ISLE OF MAN
ALDEAMENTO DA LAGOA DE OBIDOS LISBON PORTUGAL
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION TEL ENSIGN HOMES ON 01803 525 665 OR FREEPHONE 0500 730 722

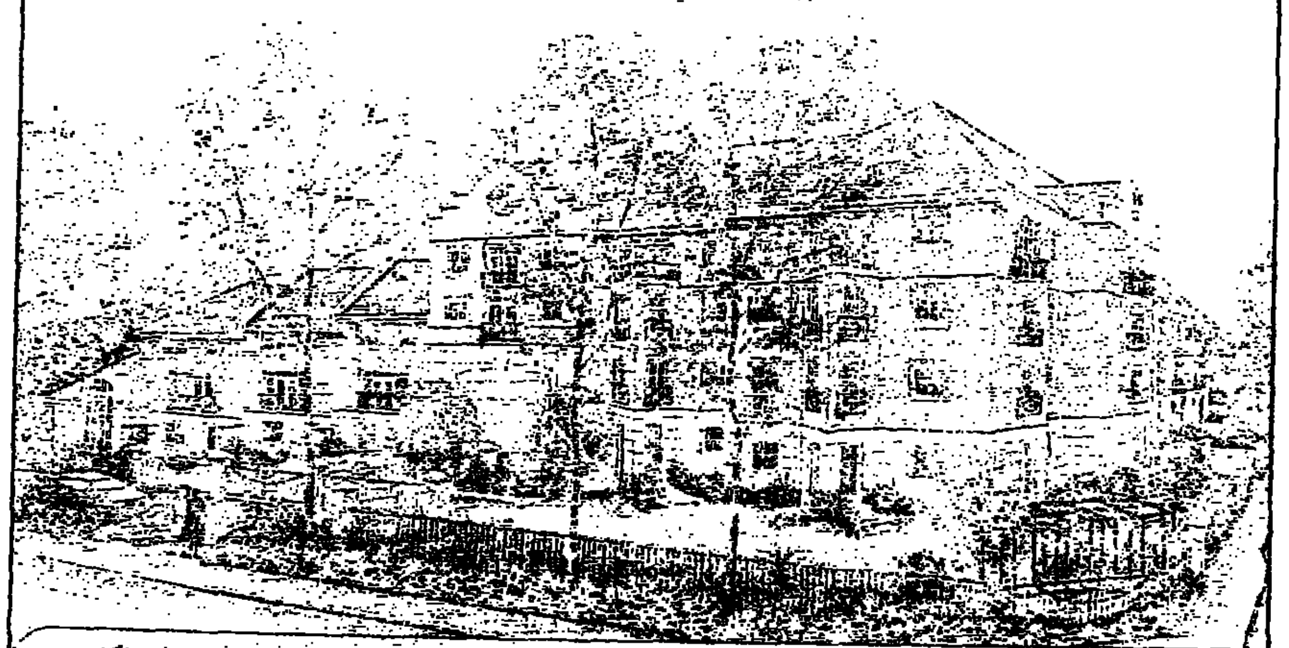
SHOWHOME OPEN 10AM - 5PM DAILY
SHOWHOME OPEN 10AM - 4PM SAT & SUN

Martin Grant Homes Ltd Grant House Abinger Hammer Surrey RH5 6QP Tel (01306) 730822
Martin Grant Homes
Martin Grant Homes U.K. Catherine House St. Albans Hertfordshire AL3 5BA Tel (01727) 844044

هكذا من الأصل

NEW HOMES

Seize the Opportunity



• Another Chance to Buy a Fairclough Home in Wandsworth •

Don't miss this chance to own a 1 or 2 bedroom luxurious apartment or a 3 bedroom town house at Milton Court, situated just off the Putney Bridge Road in the heart of historic Wandsworth. Fairclough Homes are creating a small, select development of just 25 homes, all with high luxury specifications, with prices from £88,000 to £185,000

Be amongst the first to seize the opportunity and visit Milton Court for the pre-launch choice of the available homes. Call early and benefit from pre-launch prices and then finalise your purchase at the Milton Court launch in the Hilton National **Kensington Olympia, Kensington High Street, London W14 on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st April, 10 am to 5 pm** where you can:

- Meet the architects of this new exciting development who will gladly discuss any alterations you might care to make, using Fairclough's award winning HomeMaker scheme.
- Talk to solicitors who will be happy to explain legal matters to enable you to exchange contracts at this early stage to earn launch discounts!
- Talk to financial advisers who can help you with any mortgage queries you might have, regarding your new home.

Construction is at an early stage, so you'll need to use your imagination, but right now any enhancement of the already high specification is possible with HomeMaker.

Don't miss out! Find out now about the benefits of buying a home with Fairclough.

Fairclough Homes

Come home to quality

CALL NOW ON:
0181 877 9096
(24 hours)

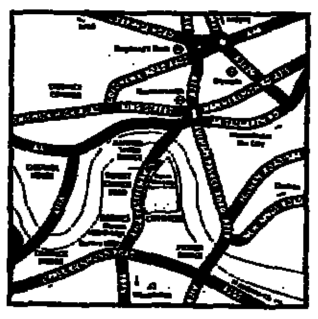
BARNES WATERSIDE · BARNES · LONDON SW13

"All new homes are the same. *Aren't they?*"

Not so, as you'll clearly discover when you visit Barnes Waterside, our spectacular development of classically inspired apartments, townhouses and detached houses, enviably located adjacent to over 100 acres of lakes and reed beds, a unique sanctuary for wildlife, yet just 17 minutes by tube from the City.

Visit our magnificent new showhome and information centre and discover the style of these beautiful new homes for yourself. We're open daily from 10am to 6pm, (5pm weekends) telephone 0181 748 17 73 (24hrs).

APARTMENTS FROM £110,750
TOWNHOUSES FROM £345,000
HOUSES FROM £365,000



Barnes Waterside

You have to see it to believe it

HOMES

NORFOLK

SOUTH NORWICH
7 miles, conservation area, beautifully restored period 4 bed detached village house with Victorian style conservatory. 80' restored outbuilding ideal for business / annexe. ¼ acre rural views. £150.000.
01508 498204.

SCOTLAND

GATEHOUSE OF FLEET
Modern detached bungalow in own grounds (⅓ acre) with beautiful landscaped gardens. The property overlooks the River Fleet and Galloway Hills. Approximately 3 miles sea trout and salmon fishing available 150 yards away. The property comprises large L shaped lounge, dining room, family room and luxury fitted kitchen, utility room, 3 double bedrooms, 1 ensuite bathroom, double glazing, gch, and double garage. No traffic but pleasant walks to shops.
£180,000
Tel: 01925 571079
or 01557 814846.

APPIN
ARGYLL
Architect designed house. 1,800 sq ft. Own grounds. Breathtaking S.W. loch views of Morven Hills and Mull. 3 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms open plan kitchen/dining room with Aga, all mod cons, conservatory and patio. 2½ hours Edinburgh and Glasgow. Mr Sandell 0131 4475427.

UIG, ISLE OF LEWIS Beautifully modernised 7 apt. cottage in remote scenic area on West Coast of Lewis. Views over Atlantic to St. Kilda. Oil c/h. Spacious outbldgs. 5 acre croft. £80,000 The Property Centre, Stornoway 01851 705057

SUFFOLK

BURY ST EDMUNDS
2 MILES
Handsome modernised period house about 2 acres. Lovely garden. Swimming pool. Stable block & paddock. Spacious accom Elegant recep hall, 3 receps, master suite, 5 further bedrms, bathrm. Convenient A14 & local Golf Clubs.
Guide price £290,000.
SWORDERS
01284 753049

3 MILES HERITAGE COAST, MIDDLETON.
Detached Victorian villa. Master bedroom en-suite, living room, sit rm, dining room, guest bed/shower room, kitchen, CH, garage. Further accommodation in Newly Converted Stable (currently providing holiday letting income). Beautiful garden.
Offers £130,000.
Tel/Fax: 01728 648 582

SURREY

Buying A House?
Finding the home you really want isn't easy!
Especially if you are moving to a new area.
We can help, simply call First Property Search on
0345 626780
FIRST PROPERTY SEARCH

GRAYSHOTT Haslemere Stn. 4 miles attached to a country house converted to apartments. A self contained bungalow style unit consisting 1 bed, bath, recep, kit. Integral gge. In need of modernisation & in comm grounds. £49,950 L'Hold Tel Peter Leele on 01428 604480.

SURREY

ATTRACTIVE VILLAGE NR FARNHAM
Edwardian detached house in sought-after village. Many original features, 4-bed, 3-rec, luxury kitchen, gas c/h. Possible conversion to s/c annexe. Mature gardens, caravan/boat space
O I R O £239,000
Tel: 01252 794625

SUSSEX

RICHARD ETHERINGTON & CO
Offer a range of interesting country properties in Sussex and Hampshire. Nr. Petersfield 4 bed, 4 recep country hse with s/c flat - one acre garden includes natural pond - £395k; 3 miles Petworth - adjoining nature reserve, country hse dating from 17c, 4 bed, 3/4 recep & converted barn - £345k; converted coach house & 4 acres near Midhurst £295k.
New Street, Petworth, West Sussex
01798 343111

EASTBOURNE MARINA 2 bedrm hse with garage. Electric heating. Maintained gdns. £46,950 Trossell Osborn Property Services 01323 431188

WALES

N PEMBROKESHIRE NEWPORT
Substantial 4 bed/2 bath stone built farmhouse (with loft conversion and superb kitchen). Particularly fine 3 storey Listed Grade II stone built Mill with detailed planning consent for conversion to full residential use, outbuildings, 32 acres pasture land, 490 yards single bank fishing. Estuary, sea and mountain views.
Price £197,500
Tel: 01348 873836

WILTSHIRE

SALISBURY Magnificent views over confluence of rivers Avon & Nadder towards the Cathedral Close & Cathedral Spire. Spac det 3 bed 3 recep hse. Gge + workshop in delightful quiet riverside ½ acre gdn. Fishing. Potential for exciting extension. Subject to planning consent. £236,000 f/h. Smith Walker Salisbury 01722 326166

NORTH OF THE THAMES

FULHAM
Pied a Terre,
Modern block, adjacent Hurlingham Club/District line to City, recently refurbished to high standard, double bedroom, good size sitting room with small west facing balcony. Galley kitchen, hall, bathroom. Excellent cupboards, C/H, long lease, security garage available seperately. £125,000.
Tel: 0171 736 3450
No Agents

NOTTING HILL W11
Superb ground floor flat, own garden with direct access to private communal gardens. Living room, 2 bedrooms, K & B, 13 ft ceilings. £210,000 l/h.
Call to view
0973 163249 (today)
or 0171221 4681.

Winkworth
PIMLICO
Pretty 1 bedroom flat in good decorative order with wonderful roof terrace. Close to tube.
£119,000.
0171 828 1786

BELSIZE PARK NW3.
Exceptional light & spacious 2 bedrm raised ground flr flat. Stunning original features incl 13ft high ceilings, marble fireplaces, carved door, shutters & cornicing. 30ft living rm, 2 lrg bedrms, 2 lux bathrms, ample storage, south facing gdn & balcony. Chain free.
£330,000. No agents.
Tel: 0171 722 4680.

BEDFORD PARK W4 A semi det Grade II Listed Norman Shaw house. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrms, 3 receptions, kit, 40' gdn. OSP Garage. F/h £498,000 Tel Whitman & Co 0181 747 8800

CHISWICK W4 Bright 2 bed 1st flr flat own entrance. Close all amenities inc Chiswick Park & Turnham Green tubes Ready for immediate occupation £80,000 White Druce & Brown 0171 734 4734 Ref IF

NOTTING HILL
Exceptional first floor flat, newly decorated. 2 double bedrooms, kitchen/breakfast room, large sitting room, own street entrance. 123 year leasehold.
£139,000.
No agents, please.
0171 460 1598

PIMLICO
Warwick Square. 1 bed ground floor flat, new kitchen & bathroom, well maintained, 104 year lease.
£106,000.
0171 630 5262

BELSIZE PARK Unique architect designed hi-tech steel & glass single storey courtyard house with private garden: Flexible 4 bedrooms, 2 bath rms, (1 en suite bath), shower rm & cloak rm. 3 lge open plan recep areas, fld kit, lge basement with laundry rm, pkg for 3 cars. F/hold. £575,000 LBE 0171 433 1622

CHISWICK W4 an exclusive development of newly built 3 storey town houses Freehold £245,000. Tel Whitman & Co 0181 747 8800

FULHAM A well presented & spacious 1 bed flat on Fulham/Chelsea brdrs 18'6 recept, kit, 15'6 bed, bath. £107,500 Vanstons 0171 736 9822

FULHAM P. Green Scruffy 1 bed g. flr flat patio Snip @ £65,000 Squire Rad 0171 381 3553

HYDE PARK W2 Mews hse 3 dble bed 3 bth lge lngr Cons Gge F/H £275,000 0171 724 9919

LANCASTER GATE/ PADD 2 bed mod bright basement w/ tiled b/room. Long lease. £165,000. 0171 723 0236.

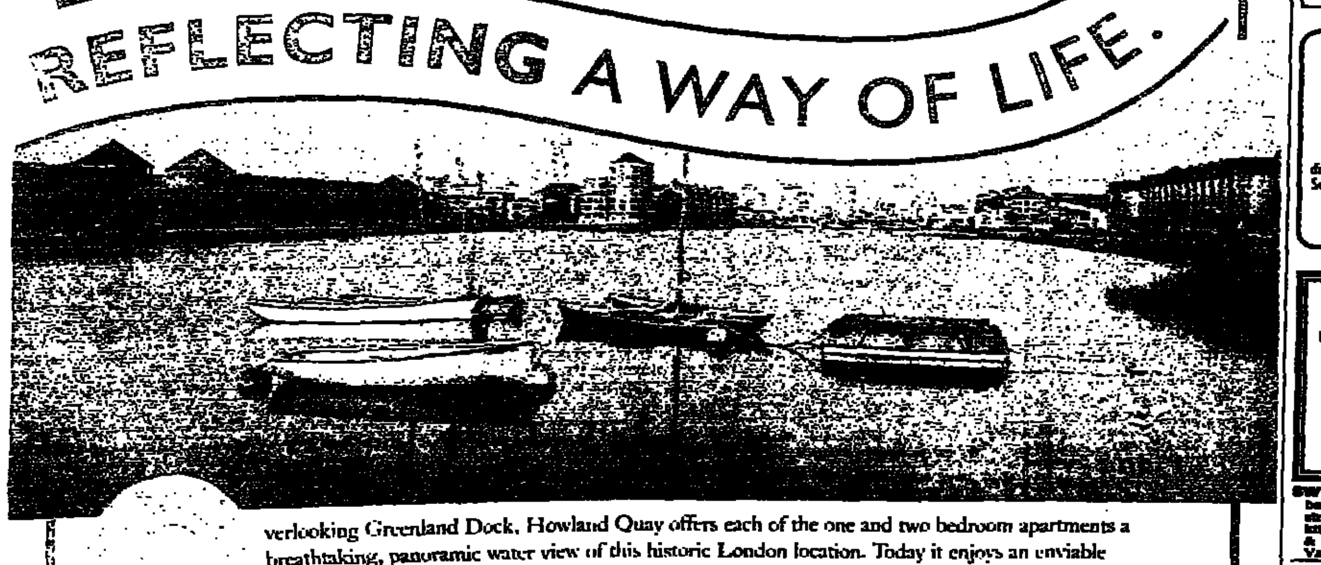
LITTLE VENICE/Maida Vale The specialist local agents. Vickers & Co 0171 289 1692

MARYLEBONE NW1 Adj Dorset Sq 3 bed 2 bath small mansion block Must sell £185,000 Sandfords 0171 723 9988

NOTTINGHAM TERR. NW1 Large 4 bed duplex mais in mod secure development. U'grd gge Close to Regents Pk. £500,000 Park Lane Apts 0171 629 0763

HOWLAND-QUAY

REFLECTING A WAY OF LIFE.



Overlooking Greenland Dock, Howland Quay offers each of the one and two bedroom apartments a breathtaking, panoramic water view of this historic London location. Today it enjoys an enviable combination of local facilities: waterside pubs, bars, restaurants and general shopping facilities together with excellent tube, rail and road links.

No Deposit. No Problem!

At Fairclough Homes, we like to remove obstacles to make every move as smooth as possible. That's why to us No Deposit means No Problem. Even without the 5% deposit, you still have the freedom to enjoy all the comforts of a new Fairclough home because, subject to status, we'll pay it for you. Those with a deposit can use it to take advantage of our HomeMaker scheme to further enhance the specification of their new home.

Prices start at an attractive £77,950.

Tel: 0171 232 0956 (24hrs).

Howland Quay, Greenland Dock, Redriff Road, London SE16

Fairclough Homes

Come home to quality

SALES OFFICE OPEN 10AM - 5PM SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

NORTH OF THE THAMES

N8 Top Fl. Conv Recep. Kit. 2 Beds. Bath s/f balcony £125,000 Dillons 0171 482 2277

SOUTH HAMPSTEAD Beautiful 3 bed 2 bath top flr mais close tube £174,950 Must view Sandfords 0171 723 9988

ST JOHN'S WOOD Return 4 storey hse. Int dev. 5 bds. 3 bths. gdn. £695,000 0171 435 7775

UPPER MONTAGU ST W1 1 bed 1st flr 8ft high ceilings Sh of F/H £105,000 0171 724 9919

VICTORIA Lovely 1 bed flat with huge recep. 2nd flr £148,600. Tuckerman 0171 222 5511

W1 beautiful 1 bed in small mansion block £99,950 Sandfords 0171 723 9988

WESTMINSTER SW1. Last remaining superb new 1 bed apartment with terrace, just 600 yards from Houses of Parliament. Secure underground parking, high-speed lifts, day-time concierge. Lavishly fitted & finished & offering real investment potential with excellent rental yields. Price £199,950. Tel 0181-893 3030

W2 Palace Court. Lux new devel. 4 flats remaining. 2 beds, 1/2 bathrms, recep, kit. £185,000 - £275,000. Granvilles 1 Hereford Rd, W2 0171 221 4935

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

PUTNEY SW15 NR HEATH
V. attractive bright modern 2 Bed (top flr) flat w/garage. P/B Gas C/H. Well maintained property, comm gardens, quiet, sought after res. area. Low outgoings. F/H £91,750.
Day 0171 210 6022
Ev 0181 788 3387

WANDSWORTH COMMON
A substantial Victorian family house in a prime location. Cse Wandsworth Cmn, tube, rail, schools. 6 beds, 2 baths, large kitchen/ bfast rm, drawing rm, dining rm, conservatory/ playroom. Sep WC. Large cellar and loft, 40 ft garden.
£430,000 F/H.
Tel: 0181 673 3224.

PUTNEY
Beautiful detached house, best area. 6 bedrms, 4 recep rms, 2 bathrms & 2 w.c. Dry cellar, garage, 95ft back garden, front garden & 2 large patios, near schools, parks & leisure centre.
F/H £556,000
No agents.
Tel: 0181 788 8011.

SW13 Attractive flat fronted 4/5 bed period property in quiet street in North Barnes. Dble rec, kit/brk, conserve, sth fcng gdn & informal roof terr £260,000 Vanstone 0181 563 8333

SW13 Mid terraced 4 bed Vict property. Dbl rec kit/ conserve, clk, bathrm, gdn. £180,000 Vanstons 0181 563 8333

WANDSWORTH COMMON Spectacular renovation of large double fronted Victorian house adjacent Common. 3/4 receps, 6 beds, 3 baths (2 ensuite), cloakrm. Fab 'Art Deco' extension housing Ian Dunn hand built kitchen. Landscaped town gdn. Cellarage. All brand new. Immediate possession £575,000 f/h John Thorogood Real Estate 0171 228 7474 Monday

BELGRAVIA

EATON SQUARE. Executive opportunity 3 bdr, 2 bth, 2 recpt appart. double aspect, bright convenient, short lease or rent Tel and Fax 01865 736164

BELGRAVIA

Knight Frank

Eaton Square, Belgravia SW1
A beautifully refurbished spacious one bedroom flat
Large reception room, kitchen/breakfast room, bedroom with en suite bathroom, guest cloakroom. Balcony with south westerly views.
Leasehold. Excess £195,000
Apply: Sloane Street
0171 824 8171

CITY OF LONDON

BARBICAN
A gracious place for living in the city

The Barbican is peaceful, prestigious and right in the heart of the City of London.

There are currently a few flats available for sale with one bedroom from approximately £95,000 and three/four bedrooms from approximately £185,000.

For an appointment to view call the Barbican Estate Team on 0171-628 4372 (24 hours).

COMMUTER STRESS?

Rise ABOVE IT.

CITY OF LONDON

1 JOHN STREET

A development of seven new luxury flats prominently located with views over Grays Inn Gardens, Bloomsbury.

Each flat is finished to a high specification including fully fitted and equipped kitchens, marble tiled bathrooms and video entryphones.

One- and three-bedroom flats with bathroom and shower room. New 150-year leases. £115,000-£260,000.

Brochure available.

Tel: 0171 636 2736
Fax: 0171 436 2649

barnard marcus

BARBICAN Just reduced 2 bed 4th flr flat, sth facing recep, 200 yds Moorgate. £108,000. Frank Harris & Co 0171 600 7000

BARBICAN 3 bed, 2 bath, penthouse with mod kitchen & west facing terrace £195,000. Frank Harris & Co 0171 600 7000

BARBICAN 1 bed flat on 1st & 2nd flrs, west facing recep. 200 yds Moorgate £94,950. Frank Harris & Co 0171 600 7000

CHELSEA

CHELSEA, SW3 Light & spacious split level maisonette Easy walk shops & restaurants. 2 bed, 2 bath, recep, dining rm. £248,000 0171 385 5757.

HOMESEARCH LONDON LTD. Let us search for you. Buy/rent 0171 460 6444 Fax 460 6445.

DOCKLANDS

WAPPING E1
Excellent apartment - 2 beds, bathroom, very large gallaried living room - large dining room - fully fitted carpets as new - fully fitted kitchen (Neff etc), video entry phone - own car parking underground - immediate possesion - 1 min from Wapping tube station.
Only £164,500
0171 702 4188
01642 314901

STUNNING RIVER VIEWS
OLD SUN WHARF
NARROW ST. LIMEHOUSE
Only 3 south facing two bed. apartments available at £165,000.
READY FOR OCCUPATION
0171-791 3313

E14. A raised ground floor apartment set in private residential development within ¼ mile of DLR station & greenwich foot tunnel. 2 bedrooms, reception with balcony, fitted kit, bathroom, Private rear gdn, secure underground parking. £79,995 Alex Neil 0171-537 9669

KENSINGTON

BOLTON GARDENS SW5
2 beds, 1 bath, bright apartment secure, quiet, well dec. 2nd floor with Lift. Share of freehold. Low outgoings. Many extras. View today.
Price £169,950
0171 244 7830
Anytime

SOUTH KEN SW7 5th floor 2 bed, lift porter superb views Needs work to bath & kit. L/H £129,500 Aaron & Lewis 0171 244 9911 / 0171 244 9838 /

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

SW7. 1st floor balcony flat Prestigious location. 4 bed, double recep, dining rm, 3 bath, porter. £725,000 0171 385 5757.

MAYFAIR

MAYFAIR Specialists Flats/houses for sale. Call Goldenberg & Co. 0171 491 4101 or Surf http://www.goldenberg.co.uk

STYLISH Immaculately presented 2 bedroom apartment in prestige block. £345,000. Horne & Sons 0171 499 9344

RICHMOND & KINGSTON

RICHMOND 1 bed mais with lge priv gdn, 6 mins shops, BR, tube £103,000. 0181 948 5421

SUBSTANTIAL 4 storey Vict hse located borders of Richmond 5/6 beds 3/4 recs lux kit/brk rm 2 baths 2 shwr rms cons 125ft gdn ample pkg £678,000 Chancellors 0181 940 2255

WEST END

GT PORTLAND ST W1
CLOSE REGENTS PARK
Beautiful view down to Portland place. Newly refurbished elegant 4th floor, lift, 3 bed, 2 bath, living, din rooms, new liv-in kit, close tube, varnished floors in period building. Possibility for roof extension & roof garden.
£295,000
Access to private grdns.
Tel: 0171 247 6014.

PENTHOUSE CHILTERN ST. W1
5th floor- 2 bed, 2 bath (1 en suite), sep. cloakroom, terrace, excellent decorative order, 24hr porterage, 102 yr lease.
£239,000.
Tel 01737 832578

2 BED split level 3rd/4th flr flat Shwr rm & bathrm. Approx ¼ mile Hyde Park £215,000 William James 0171 724 7744

COVENT GDN Stylish new mais 3 bd 2 bth lge rec wood flr high spec £295,000 0171 244 7901

PENTHOUSE Approx 4,000 sq ft in immaculate condition with very large terrace £895,000. Horne & Sons 0171 499 9344

SOHO Newly modernised loft 2 bed 2 bath high tech kit wood floor £235,000 0171 244 7901

ST JAMES' SW1 New lux 3 bed 2 bath flat to rec high tech kit fr £325,000 0171 244 7901

PROPERTY CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING IS CONTINUED OVERLEAF.

WEST END

WEST END Nr Oxford St Unique opp'new conv house 3 beds, 2 baths, garage. F/H £360,000 Gibbons 0181-348 3064

WIMBLEDON

WIMBLEDON VILLAGE. Extremely elegant Edwardian family house. 3 reception rooms, lrge fld kit/b'fst rm, family rm, 5 beds, 3 baths, garage. Pye & Partners 0181 946 2930

LONDON RENTALS

Jackson-Stops & Staff

RESIDENTIAL LETTINGS
Quality rentals available in SW1, SW3, SW7, SW6
We are urgently seeking properties for existing applicants and are able to offer a full Rental Management Service.
Short Let - 1 bed, Pont St £350pw
Tel: Jennie Robertson 0171 584 9960

SAND
have
THE FINEST SELECTION
of
RIVERSIDE APARTMENTS TO LET
£250 to £4000 per week
0171 308 9943

F.W. GAPP
We offer a personal and professional service to Landlords & Tenants in all aspects of the Letting market, and would be delighted to hear from you.
ARLA MEMBER

The Property Managers
0171-243 0964

A.M.A. INTERNATIONAL Luxury flats & houses for long, short or holiday lets. All Central London areas. 0171 724 4844

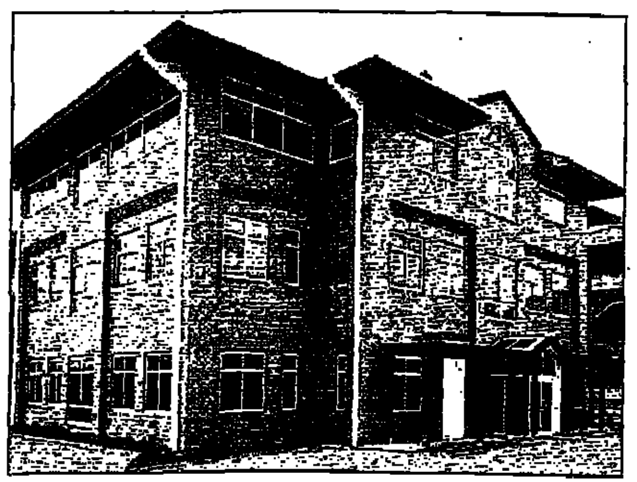
ACCOMMODATION location service. Specialists in Embassy & Corporate enquiries. West / North West London. Rent from £200 - £5,000pw. Mendelson 0181 932 1135. fax 0181 932 0696. eve/wkend 0468 416492

ESSEX

Sea View Apartments
1&2 bedroom apartments at Spinnaker Court, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex from only £38,950
No Deposit – No Problem!
Let Fairclough Homes pay your 5% deposit* so you can use your savings to further enhance the specification of your new home. Use our HomeMaker Scheme and choose from our range of options – many are free!
*Subject to scheme rules. Full details are available from our Sales office.
Telephone 01255 436541
Sales office open seven days a week 10am – 5pm

You'll find us in the park

David Crawford looks at the number of high street firms deciding to move out of town



Solent Business Park: an Arlington development on the M27

Professional firms such as accountants, solicitors and engineers have historically clustered in "brass plaque" areas of town centres, within walking distance of each other, and of banks, chambers of commerce and business clubs. But, spurred by traffic congestion and increasingly mobile clients, many are venturing into modern, motorway-based business parks alongside high-tech companies and financial institutions.

This month, for example, Shoosmiths and Harrison, one of the largest regional law firms, moved 280 staff working in Northampton from three town-centre locations to a 50,000 sq ft pre-let on Wilson Connolly Properties' Lakes Business Park. "We needed more efficient accommodation," says John Peet, a partner, "and have been able to build in space for expansion."

In 1992 the firm opened an office on the M27-based Solent Business Park, developed by Arlington, alongside Scottish Amicable, Norwich Union, Pearl Assurance and London and Manchester Assurance.

"We don't have too many high street-type clients, so there was no particular reason for setting up in a town centre," says Patricia Barnes, their South Coast facilities manager. The firm has expanded from 2,000 sq ft of short-lease space to 20,000 sq ft, with a staff increase from six to 100. She admits, however, that there are problems, for example in recruiting carless juniors, and having to drive instead of walking to the shops.

In another Midlands move Grant Thornton, one of the largest medium-sized accountants with 46 branches nationwide, needed in 1993 to merge three Northamptonshire branches into one office. Arlington's Kettering Venture Park was chosen. It is within 15 minutes of 90 per cent of existing business. The firm had a 14,500 sq ft building built to specification and is occupying it on a 20-year lease.

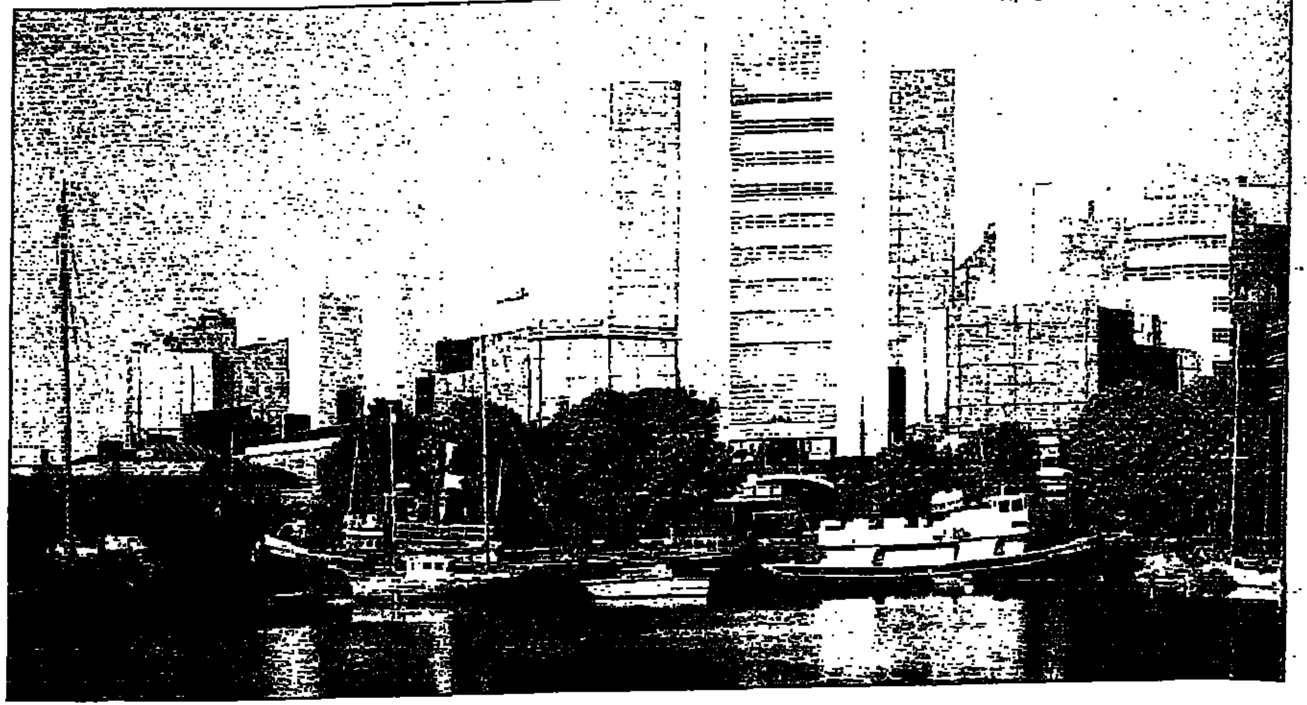
Aidan O'Rourke, the managing partner, is pleasantly surprised by "the new business attracted by our higher profile now that we have six corporate finance professionals working together, and the relatively few clients who have left us".

A construction industry patron of business parks is the engineering consultancy W. S. Atkins, which opened its Cumbria branch in 1986 in Whitehaven to handle projects for British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL) at Sellafield.

The office has now moved into a 3,500 sq ft pavilion on the Westlakes Science and Technology Park south of the town, which has been developed by BNFL and local authorities to boost employment.

In 1992, W. S. Atkins needed to open a Thames Valley office after acquiring the privatised Oxfordshire County Council department of planning and property services. It opted for 13,000 sq ft of speculative space (now increased to 25,000 sq ft) on Evans of Leeds plc's Chilbrook Oasis Business Park at Eynsham, seven miles west of Oxford. "Our main reasons were ease of access nationwide, avoidance of peak-hour congestion and easy parking," says Hugh Roberts, a director.

If this trend continues, town centres will lose one of their most dependable occupier groups. But Alan Tallentire, chairman of the Association of Town Centre Management, thinks the threat will diminish. "As some firms move to business parks, there will be more room to move around centres, and the traditional attractions of shopping and leisure will reassert themselves, not least when staff choose where they want to work."



Banking on the bank of the Thames

MARKET MOVES

☐ THE LONDON branch of Skanska, the Swedish developer, has announced that Svenska Handelsbanken has acquired 32,000 sq ft at Trinity Tower, above, in Thomas More Square, London E1, east of Tower Bridge, for its new London headquarters. The Swedish bank will be moving from its current premises in Newgate Street, London EC4, at the turn of the year.

☐ STADIUM, owner of the Meadowhall shopping and leisure centre at Sheffield, has combined with P&O in a joint venture to develop CentrO, Europe's largest retail and leisure complex, at Oberhausen, Germany, costing around £900 million. The 250-acre site, formerly a coalmine and coking plant in the Ruhr heartland, is due to open in September. CentrO will have 200 shops, and the complex includes restaurants, a nine-screen multiplex cinema, 11,500-seat indoor sporting and entertainment arena, business park, and a leisure park of themed gardens and adventure playgrounds. It hopes to attract 25 million visitors in the first year.

☐ BLACKFRIARS (PD) Ltd, a newly formed joint venture company, has acquired major interests at Nos 1 and 2 Puddle Dock, on the Thames adjacent to Blackfriars Bridge, from Provident Mutual, and intends a redevelopment of up to 1.25 million sq ft of offices. It is believed the company has agreed a price of around £32 million for the building.

☐ THE IMPERIAL Tobacco factory site in Bristol is to be redeveloped into a 330,000 sq ft retail and leisure park on 37 acres. The scheme has outline planning permission, and it is proposed that Imperial Park will include non-food retail, club warehouse, leisure, restaurant and hotel uses.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

GUNNE
ESTATE AGENTS

For Sale by Tender Wed. 17th April, at 12 noon.
CLONLARA GOLF & LEISURE, LANDSCAPE HOUSE, CLONLARA, CO. CLARE.

- Landscape House: 17th Century carefully restored Manor House with 6 bedrooms.
- Beautifully appointed lounge bar c. 1,000 sq.ft. Full 7 day licence.
- 11 self contained, mainly stone built Chalets. Tennis Courts, Car Parks.
- Challenging 9 hole Golf course over 2,915 yards. Designed for extension to 18 holes, 3 of which have been completed, set in superlative surroundings on the banks of the River Shannon.
- Excellent potential for expansion and development both as a local and tourist amenity. Title: Freehold.

Solicitors: Dalton & Hogan, Ashfield Hse., Henry St. Limerick.

BALLSBRIDGE 010 353 1 6672444
Ted Dunworth/Dermot Curtin

QUALITY OFFICE FURNITURE

MASSIVE CLEARANCE DUE TO CLOSURE OF OIL COMPANY

DESKS FROM £40

Magnificent Reproduction directors suite
8 further suites in rosewood
16' santos rosewood table with 12 leather chairs + other tables
Over 150 L/oak and Black desks with storage
Large quantity of office partitions
Exec + VDU chairs

CALL PCS ON 0181 549 4848

LAST 7 DAYS – EVERYTHING MUST GO!

NATTRASS GILES

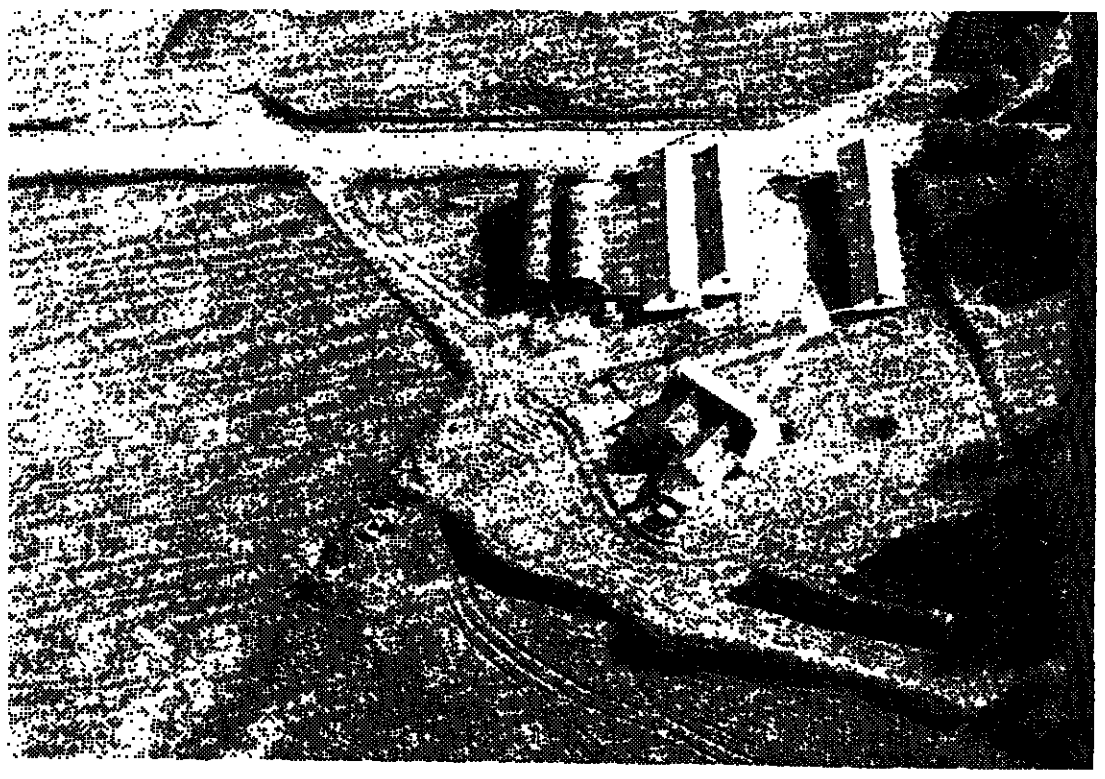
On behalf of
British Gas Properties

SOLIHULL
WEST MIDLANDS
Modern Industrial/Warehouse
19,300 SQ. FT.

- ★ Light Industrial with power distribution, air conditioning & suspended ceiling.
- ★ Warehousing – 23' eaves
- ★ Break options every 5 years
- ★ J2, M42 – 2 miles approx.

TO LET
0121 333 3363
73/75 Aston Road North
Waterlinks
Birmingham B6 4DA

South Wales



British Coal is offering for sale by private treaty approximately 2000 hectares (5000 acres) of agricultural land as a whole or in 14 lots located in South Wales.

Closing date for offers, 12 Noon, 2 May 1996.

Sole Agents: Cooke & Arkwright
92 Park Street
Bridgend
Mid Glamorgan
CF31 4BD

Contact: Roderick Perons
Tel: 01656 655 051
Fax: 01656 657 446

COOKE & ARKWRIGHT CHARTERED SURVEYORS

British COAL

NR BRECON POWYS
M4 35 mls
CARDIFF 45 mls
A former country mansion set in approximately 62 acres. Refurbished and converted to provide a conference and management training centre in a superb setting
Principally affording 10 function rooms 20 bedrooms Managers and Caretakers flats
Two bungalows
Substantial range of stone outbuildings
Offers invited in the region of £500,000
Further details apply Montague Harris / Halifax Property Services, Bulwark Chambers Brecon Powys Tel 01874 623452 / 623977

WEST COAST OF SCOTLAND
UNIQUE WAY OF LIFE BUSINESS
This gem of a place comprises a small Country Inn well known for its good food. Has 2en Bds sub PO, Mod Hse Lng Kt 3 Bds (1 en) Delightful setting. Price £150,000
Full details from Chris Hart & Co
0141 221 3312

FOR SALE
Traditional Upholstery & Antique Restoration Business in Cornwall. Est 15 yrs & a training package F'hold workshops over 1500sq ft. Price £42,000 oiro (Buildings only £35,000) Tel
01872 573854

OFFICES TO LET

HAMMERSMITH BROADWAY W6
1625 sq ft (151 sq m) Fully air conditioned offices with raised flooring, attractive building and entrance Short term letting available. Contact Matthew Harris 0181 748 6644

PROPERTY

PROPERTY CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING IS CONTINUED FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE

LONDON RENTALS

ST JOHNS WOOD
Prestigious block, porterage, facing St Johns Wood tube station. Newly refurbished, parquee floor, 3 bedrooms.
£700 per week
0181 802 0190

AARON & LEWIS Estate Agents of Kensington impeccable service for Sales, Rental and Management. References available 0171 244 9911.

A1 Execs seek Central flats & houses - furn/unfurn - top refs. Usual fees required. Cabban & Gaselee 0171 589 5481.

ALL TENANTS We have a wide range of properties from £200 - £2000pw. For a comprehensive list call 0171 225 0102.

ARE YOU Visiting London? Central Estates have quality flats and houses in Central London for long or short term rentals. 0171 224 3773.

BARBICAN Lux 2 bed, 2 bth apt. new dev. u/g pkg. unf/ furn £325pw 0171 431 1066

BELG. Eleg small flat suit fed-up Commuter wanting central base & no cleaning! 0171 730 7301.

BECKENHAM. Beautifully furnished fully equipped 3 bed terraced house + gdn & gardener 20 mins Victoria/Charing X. For 1 year to non smoking professional couple £800pcm. Tel 0181 663 0279

BELGRAVIA Fabulous int des 2 dbl bed. 2 bath, good size recep flat with benefit of lrg terrace. £425pw 0171 373 2882

BURNABY ST SW10. Furnished 4 bed. 2 bath hse, dble recep. conservatory. gdn & private parking. Aaron & Lewis 0171 244 9911t 0171 244 9838f.

CHELSEA, SW3. Stylish, spacious, 2 bed flat a few mins walk Knightsbridge shops and restaurants. furn or unfurn. £400pw 0171 388 5757.

CHELSEA Ovington Gdns. 1 bd, 1 rec. kit. bth. lift. unfurn/part furn £550 neg pw. Ironsides 0171 581 5877.

CHELSEA 2 bed. 2 bth apt. lift. 24hr prtr. u/g prkg. un/furn £350pw 0171 431 1066.

CHELSEA SW3 Immaculate 2 bed f/furn flat, porter, pkg. £315pw 0181 346 6148.

CHELSEA Excellent studio flat all ammenities. 1 min Sloane Sq tube. £160pw 0171 373 2882.

CITY/EC1 Brand new 1 & 2 bed flats. prtr. pkg. nr tube. f/furn £230-£375pw 0171 379 4816

EARLS FIELD SW18. 5 mins walk station. 3 bed furnished house. quiet location. garden. £285 pw. Tel: 01276 452659.

DOCKLANDS Lux 2 bed. 2 bath f/f Town Hse. fit kit. dining. marble fireplace. good storage. garage. patio gdn £230 pw Spires Int'l 0171 937 7733

EARLS COURT Zone 1 Luxury flats. 1 to 3 persons. from £180pw inc 0171 373 8818

FARM STREET Mayfair. W1. Splendid 1 - 2 bed flat. 2 bath. £395pw 0171 355 1156.

FROGNAL NW3 Lovely 2 bed p/b blk. balcony. pkg. large lounge £270pw 0171 794 0193

FULHAM SW6 - off Munster Rd. Delightful 4 bed. f/furn house. study. conserv. garden £440pw Greenacre & Co 0171 720 0661

GLOUCESTER PL. W1 Brand new, 1 dble bed. f/f kitchen. nr tube £265pw 0171 486 5507

GLOUCESTER RD 2 double bed apartment, huge roof terrace £295pw 0171 221 9044

GROSVENOR SQUARE Lux 2 bed flat with garage to let long term £675pw 0181 332 7318

HAMSTEAD VILLAGE 2 bedrm. 2 bathrm mais. all mod cons. secluded patio. 2 mins heath & tube. £315 pw. 0171 867 2956

HENDON/Colindale (Welsh harp village). Delightful modern luxury studio flat. Beautiful (green) surroundings. Avail now. £110 pw excl. Refs. 0181 982 0793.

HOLLAND PARK Charming newly refurb split level Mews flat. 2 beds, 2 bath. f/f kit. Unfurn, Co let pref. Avail now. £380 pw 0171 229 5050

HOLLAND PK Artistic 1 dble bed apartment. pretty gdns. priv pkg. £315pw 0171 221 9044.

KENSINGTON spacious newly refurb. hse. in prime located cobbled Mews. 4 min Glou. Rd. tube, 2 dbl. 1 sgl. 2 bath. f.f. kit. gge. £500 pw 0181 946 5982

KENSINGTON W8 Luxury 2 double bed. 1 bath. near tube £310pw. 0171 486 5507.

KENSINGTON Lux spacious 3 bed apt in PB block, f/f to a high std. £375pw 0171 5842511.

KENSINGTON SW7 Gdn. Sq. s/c lge lux dbl. bed flat Short let. Nr tube £280 pw 0171 373 9034

KENSINGTON Huge 2 double bed flat. Excellent location £300pw Paul 0171 482 4666.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE Top quality int des apart nr Sloane St. 4 beds. 3 marble baths. dble recep. f/f eat in kit. lift & port £1,000pw PLA 0171 629 0763

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SW1 Furnished 4th floor 3 bed. 3 bath flat in pb £775pw J Trevor & Webster 0171 629 8151.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE Superb Int design mais. lrg patio with lrg terrace. jacuzzi. excellent security £675pw 0171 373 2882.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE Cadogan Sq. Superb int des 1 dbl bed flat. lrg recep. keys to the gdns & tennis court £580pw 0171 373 2882.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE Superb int des mais. 1 lrg dbl bed, lrg recep, excellent securitry £350pw 0171 373 2882.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE. Superb family house. 4 bed, 2 receps, lrg eat in kit. lrg paved garden £1,200pw 0171 373 2882.

LITTLE VENICE canal views, elegant unf 2 recep, 3 bed, 2½ bath flat £650pw 0171 586 9842

MARBLE ARCH Op the Park Interior Designed Newly Refurb. 3 Bedrooms. Double Reception. American kit. 1½ baths flat. 24hrs security. Avail now long / short let. Connaught Properties 0171 727 3060.

MARLEYBONE Modern spacious 2 bed flat, 2 bath, pkg. f/furn & equipped, close tube. immac cond. £325pw 0171 379 4816.

MARLEYBONE LANE W1 Brand new 1st flr. f/furn 1 bed executive flat. Great location £278pw Globe Aparts 0171 935 9512

MAYFAIR Luxury 2 bed furnished flats. Good location + daily cleaning service. Rents from £550pw. Exclusive of outgoings. Reiff Management Services Ltd 0171 491 3154.

MAYFAIR/C'LSEA/K'BRIDGE. Lux 1-5 beds flats. long/shrt lets. fr £200pw 0171 486 5507.

MAYFAIR 2 bed lux f/f apts. superb location £650 & £675 pw Simon 0171 355 1156.

NOTTING HILL W11. Superb 1 double bed flat. Very smart £220pw Paul 0171 482 4666.

NW3. 3 dble bed apt. comm gdn. priv gge. comm tennis court £650pw 0171 431 1066.

PIMLICO SW1 Luxury 1 bed flat w/river views, w/balcony. porter £260pw 0171 486 5507.

PIMLICO 2 dble bed. 2 bath apt. priv terr. priv lift. unfurn £460pw 0171 431 1066

PUTNEY Superb 3 bed. 2 bath house secluded garden £450pw Hugh Henry 0181 789 7077

REGENT PARK Spac 2 bed p/b flat with gge. new carpet. soothing decor. f/f kit. washer etc £260pw 0181 953 8911 L

SE1 Bridgewalk Heights 2 bed flat in new development. Short or long term lets avail. 300 yards Haywater Gallery. Close to London Bridge Station £380 neg per week. Bishops International Property 01832 275188.

SOUTH KEN Lux 2 bed 2 bath f/f apart. victorian conv. Fit kit. d/w. w/d. lrg lounge. high ceiling. balcony. video entry £475 pw Spires Int'l 0171 937 7733.

SOUTH KEN Lux 2 bed 2 bath f/f apart in victorian conv. Fit kit. d/w. w/d, video entry £390 pw Spires Int'l 0171 937 7733.

ST JOHNS WOOD. NW8 Nice 2 bed flat. 1 bath. near park £295pw 0171 486 5507.

ST JOHN'S WOOD Nr Regents Pk. 3 bed, 2 bath flat. part furn £375pw 0171 724 9919.

SW7 1 bed flat, close to Gloucester Rd & Sth Ken tube. mins Park £250pw 0171 373 0033

SW1 1 dbl bed. 1 sit. kit/din. bth f/f sunny flat. newly dec. nr tube. £175pw. 0171 736 3958

SWISS COTTAGE: Newly decorated family town house. Double recep. f/f kitch. cloakroom. garage. paved garden. Master bed with ensuite bath & shower, 2 single beds, 2nd bath & shower. playroom / study with balcony. GCH & Burglar alarm. Close tube & all facilities. £420 pw. 0171 409 7822 (T)

SWISS COTTAGE Superior modern v lge ff flat. 2 mins tube, 2 bed/2 bath. wood flrs throughout, patio gdn £300pw.

SWISS COTTAGE Gdn flat, 2 beds/2 baths. huge recep. f/fit kit £360pw 0171 794 0193.

SW5 lux refurb spacious 2 bed flat in gdn Sq. Nr tube £375pw unfurn. 0171 370 5269

SW3 Sloane Avenue Mansion. 1 bed lux apartment £195pw no agents. Viewing 0181 906 1194

SW8 spacious period furn accom over top 2 flrs of lrg victorian hse in conserv area. Roof terr & own tel. £260pw (inc hse keeper) 0171 582 5246 eve.

THE LAKES Surrey Quays. 1 mile City. 3 dble bed house, split level kitchen/recep £275pw & 2 bed flat at £200pw Phoenix Property 0171 702 3434.

TOWER BRIDGE Stunning 4/5 bed penthouse apt. f/f. pkng. terr. nr tube & City. avail now £795pw 0171 702 1293.

W1. Unfurn mews house. Close Portland Place. Large recep. 3 beds. 2.5 baths. terrace. fully equip kit. gch. garage £330pw Globe Aparts 0171 935 9812.

WANTED Quality furn 1 bed flat near transport upto £450pw. In W8, SW3, SW7. Usual fee required 0171 373 0033.

W1 2 bed flat in prestige block. 2nd floor. lift £250pw Executive Homes 0171 724 9919.

W5 / EALING Modern townhouse. 4 beds. 2 baths. 2 receps. gdn. pkg. part furn. new kit £430 pw 0171 379 4816

W/Ken Selec brand new lux 2/3 bed apts. furn/unfurn. prices from £375pw 0171 431 1066.

W2 Lancaster Gate Luxury 2 double bed flat. 2 bathrooms £260pw Paul 0171 482 4666.

W8 Mews house. 3 bed. 2 bath. recep. kit. dining room. furn. company let £575pw Mavis Patterson 0171 584 2418.

W8 Spacious 3 bed. 2 bath furn flat. high ceiling. fire place. Period building mins from Park £600pw 0171 373 0033

W9 Spacious 2 bed flat. fully fitted kitchen & bath. suit sharers £205pw 0171 379 4816.

W1 West End. Excellent 1 double bed flat. Huge lounge £250pw Paul 0171 482 4666

COUNTRY RENTALS

½ Acre Garden
4 bedroom modern detached house in small Combs village, 5 miles St Neots, 13 miles Cambridge, large fitted kitchen/diner, separate dining room, hall/study, lounge 21ftx15ft, unfurnished. Includes small paddock suiting goats and chickens etc, rear vehicle access.
Available end April.
£650 pcm.
TEL: 01480 880624.

PROPERTY WANTED

BISHOPS INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY CONSULTANTS. Purchase property in the UK with confidence. "We will search, negotiate and manage on your behalf. Using Bishops will save you time, costs and unnecessary aggravation. For further details please tel 01832 275188 or fax 01832 275189.

RELOCATION

CHP The efficient buying agent for both London & Country House Property. Staffed by a team of professionals with over 20yrs of experience. For further details 0171 382 2120

LAND FOR SALE

NORTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE A single plot about ¼ acre in rural village location. Detailed permission for 4 bedroom bungalow. £100,000. Christopher Pallet 01296 623907

LONDON PROPERTY

LAST 2 AUTHENTIC "REAL LOFT" WAREHOUSE APARTMENTS IN LONDON EC1

In this former Edwardian Warehouse.

The City Loft Company has avoided the dreary developer instinct of maximum units per building and has created apartments which preserve the one true essential of 'loft' living – space.

The two available units are 1600 sq ft & 1400 sq ft, selling at under £100 per sq ft.

For information and invitation to open evening and weekend ring now:

URBAN SPACES 0171 251 6661

the BANNER BUILDING ec1

CHESTERFIELD

NEW TO THE MARKET
BRAMERTON STREET, CHELSEA, SW3
A beautifully presented family house in this quiet street in central Chelsea.
Drawing Room: Dining Room:Study: Kitchen/Breakfast Room: Master Bedroom Suite: Four Further Bedrooms: SecondBathroom:Dressing Room with Shower: Two Cloakrooms: Playroom: Garden
Freehold £1,100,000 Subject to contract
0171 581 5234

Winkworth
SURREY QUAYS

COOKHAM CRESCENT. A 3 storey terrace town hse overlooking Albion Channel in sought after Crescent. 4 beds, main bathrm, e/s shwr rm, utility rm. Good decorative order £135,000 f/h

WOLFE CRESCENT Lge 3 storey town hse in a quiet Crescent. 4 beds, master with e/s bathrm, 2nd bed with e/s shwr rm, recep rm, kit/b'fast rm, clkrm, gas ch & alarm system. £149,950 f/h.

A SELECTION OF RIVERSIDE APTS offering 24 hr porterage. Indoor htd swimming pool, gymnasium/weights rm. Undergrnd secure pkng, video entry, lift. From £72,950

0171 237 9119

SHOW KITCHENS WANTED URGENTLY

WE WILL BUILD YOU A SUPERB KITCHEN AT A **FRACTION OF THE NORMAL COST** - IF YOU LET US SHOW IT TO 6 PROSPECTIVE CUSTOMERS

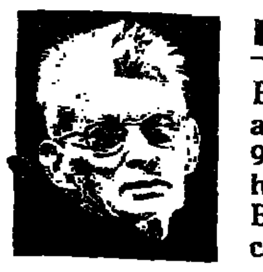
This is a genuine offer to enable us to quickly establish a network of LUXURY SHOW KITCHENS across the country to support our national advertising campaign. Over 15 eyecatching ranges with many combination options in a multitude of finishes to choose from.

Arthur Rathbone KITCHENS LIMITED

BRANCHES NATIONWIDE

PHONE NOW 01582 29404 ASK FOR CHRIS PLUMMER

مكتز من الاهل



■ THEATRE 1

Both revered and neglected: 90 years after his birth, Samuel Beckett remains a controversial name

■ THEATRE 2

Fear and loathing among Irish decorators, explored in the fine *Brothers of the Brush*

THE TIMES ARTS

■ MUSIC

In Liverpool a new concerto for saxophone quartet brings a repeat success for Philip Glass

■ YOUNG ARTS

How a teenage piano prodigy prepares for the biggest challenge of his life

Samuel Beckett would have been 90 next month. **Andy Lavender** assesses the great man's place in the Nineties

Act one, scene one: Enter Godot

In some quarters, they are gearing up for the ninetieth anniversary, on April 13, of the birth of Samuel Beckett. A clutch of festivals and conferences in Europe and America suggests that Beckett's status as a towering genius of the 20th century will be roundly celebrated. In other quarters, however, they know nothing and care just as little about this recondite figure, birthday or not.

Just go into bookshops in this country and try to find Beckett's novels (for some admirers, he is among the most skilful exponents of the form). You might know of *Waiting For Godot* or *Endgame*, Beckett's most famous plays. But what of *A Piece of Monologue*, *What Where* or *Catastrophe*? Has Beckett suffered the fate of the too-clever-by-half writer: revered within academia, ignored elsewhere? That would be a shame. This was the man, after all, who in his early twenties moved from his native Dublin to Paris, where he quickly became a friend of James Joyce. Who escaped, by only a few hours, deportation to a Nazi concentration camp during the Second World War. And who rose to (not exactly welcome) prominence as a pioneer of postwar existentialism.

Beckett's work, it seemed, came smack at the turning-point of the 20th century, when modernism was whittled into something even more extraordinarily lean. Who but Beckett could have written a drama, *Not I*, whose central "character" is an illuminated mouth? Or another, *Breath*, consisting of two faint cries and lasting for about 35 seconds?

The whys and wherefores of this strangely shaped body of work will be pondered in various corners of the globe over the next weeks and months. Imagine being a Beckett expert at such a time, caught in a cycle of duties of, well, Beckettian proportions. James Knowlson, Beckett's authorised biographer, is due to put in an appearance this weekend at a Goldsmiths', University of London, conference focusing on Beckett's time in London in the 1930s. Knowlson will then jet off to give a keynote lecture in Strasbourg, and will be speaking in Florence in May. In between, he is correcting the proofs of *Damned to Fame: The Life of Samuel Beckett*, which will be published in September.

> ❝You learn so much about theatre from him; that's what is such a joy❞

Knowlson knew Beckett for the last 20 years of the author's life, and interviewed him a number of times during the months before his death in 1989. He promises a number of new angles on the writer. The first, he says, will counter the impression of Beckett as a "miserabilist", concerned only to point out the pointlessness of life. "He was such good fun," Knowlson says. "Dinners, meetings, drinks — you couldn't actually talk to Beckett without bursting into hoots of laughter."

But before you conjure up a remorselessly mirthful character, Knowlson emphasises Beckett's quietly ethical dimension. "Everyone says that this guy is apolitical. But he joined the French Resistance, he banned all his plays from being produced in South Africa and — what hasn't been known until now — he gave all his Polish royalties to victims of the oppression of Solidarity."

Knowlson points to another new revelation. "Nobody has realised yet that Beckett was a connoisseur of painting, of the great masters. His own images can be seen to be inspired by Rembrandts and Dürers and Antonellos. When you look at some of these paintings you see Beckett's figures."

Beckett's work certainly offers the most striking images, both complex and simple — like the parents in dustbins in *Endgame*, or the five-second, toothless smile of Listener at the end of *That Time*. I must declare an interest here, having directed the production of Beckett's *Act Without Words I* and *II*, currently at the BAC Theatre in London. Both pieces are mime dramas with a clownish tinge, but working on them is like opening a Russian doll: the more you look, the more layers there are.

REX

"He was such good fun," says Beckett's official biographer about the famous "miserabilist". "You couldn't talk to him without bursting into laughter"

Tom Morris, the BAC's artistic director, is staging a production of *All That Fall* as his contribution to the venue's Beckett season. Why present a play written for radio in the theatre? "For the most part radio is listened to as a chatty voice in the corner of your kitchen," Morris says. "My starting point was, what would it be like to engulf the audience in a sound world in total darkness? As you read the play your head is completely enveloped in noise, whether it's a crowing cockerel or the sounds of an arthritic old man levering a 200lb woman into his car. It is written with this fantastic aural imagination."

Across the Thames, Katie Mitchell is preparing a production of *Endgame* for the Donmar Warehouse. She argues that the play, although written in 1956, seems especially contemporary. "The context for it is an apocalypse or Armageddon which Beckett left entirely ambiguous," she explains. "For as long as the human race lasts there will always be this great fear that it will all end, be it through the nuclear bomb or the collapse of the ozone layer. And that's where he is contextualising what is in effect a family drama."

Perhaps this sense of dealing with current concerns — albeit doomy ones — will rescue Beckett from his potential isolation within the seminar rooms of academia. "There is a real danger in the fact that he has become part of the syllabus, a classic," says Keir Elam, who is organising the conference in Florence and contributing to the one in London. He reports, though, that Beckett is enjoying something approaching popular acclaim in Italy.

"All the prose works have just been republished in a new Italian translation. They're read, and there's a great deal of debate about them. The plays are very much performed and nearly all the major actors in Italy have tried to come to grips with Beckett. He's had enormous influence, partly in ways of conceiving the use of the stage. He taught directors how to simplify."

Mitchell echoes this theme. "You learn about theatre," she says. "You learn so much, that's what is such a joy."

- *The Goldsmiths conference,* Beckett, London and Other Matters, *runs from Friday to Sunday (0171-919 7220)*
- Acts Without Words *and* All That Fall *are part of the Beckett season at the BAC (0171-223 2223)*
- Endgame *opens at the Donmar Warehouse (0171-369 1732) on April 11*

CONCERT

But where's the tune?

THE best way a composer can avoid having his works dismembered and reassembled on a compilation disc is to do the compilation himself.

Much of Philip Glass's new Concerto for Saxophone Quartet and Orchestra sounds like a collection of your favourite accompaniment figures, the best of them protected from the intrusion of anything like a tune so that their basic harmonies and simple rhythms can be appreciated for what they are.

The choice example is what might be described as the second subject of the first movement — a syncopated figure not unlike that which appears at the equivalent point in the *Unfinished Symphony*. Whereas Schubert is naive enough to offer his accompaniment figure only twice before imposing distracting melody on it, Glass repeats his in all its purity perhaps a hundred times over.

RLPO/
Maksymiuk
Philharmonic
Hall, Liverpool

The advantage of passages like that is that they stimulate our own imagination. Although listeners to the Radio 3 broadcast of the (more or less) first British performance of the Glass concerto cannot have been aware of it, the Philharmonic Hall was reverberant with hundreds of unheard tunes drawn from the audience into the melodic vacuum.

The professional restraint of the Rascher Saxophone Quartet in resisting the temptation to improvise a little linear interest here and there was only slightly less admirable than their virtuosity in the activity of the second and fourth movements. It was disappointing, however, that their encore was a Bach arrangement.

The virtue of Barber's Adagio for strings is that, as a fundamentally contrapuntal conception, it has no accompaniment figure. The sin of the Saint-Saëns *Organ Symphony*, on the other hand, is that it is based on one. But sin and religious sentiment have long been compatible partners in French artistic taste. Jerzy Maksymiuk, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and its sentimental organ proved to be as adept in exploiting that fruitful contradiction as they were in profiling the long-term structural progress of the work.

GERALD LARNER

Ragged-trousered unphilanthropists

Brothers of the Brush
Arts

WITH the polls suggesting that insecurity at work worries the British more than anything else, Jimmy Murphy's new play is undoubtedly timely. It may be set in Dublin and it may involve house-painters, but it does not take huge imagination to transpose its action to a hundred thousand offices on this side of the Irish Sea. *Brothers of the Brush* is a nightmare for the 1990s, a killer-fantasy in which virtue goes unrewarded, vice stays unpunished and poetic injustice flourishes.

That does not sound like a recipe for a fun evening, and there are times when Murphy's tale of three wrangling decorators and their gaffer seems repetitive and doggedly realistic. But plays do not win loads of awards in 1990s Ireland, as *Brothers of the Brush* has done, without having plenty going for them.

Murphy's writing and Lynne Parker's strong cast generate a surprising amount of tension, intensity and meaning from "small" lives. And judging by the gasps of horror near me, I was not the only person in the audience who ended up ready to leap on stage and grab the triumphant villain by the throat.

Martin's three employees — Lar, Heno and his Uncle Jack — are drawing the dole while simultaneously earning £25 a day from him for painting a basement. Bad feeling, already festering below the surface, erupts when he gives the job of foreman to Lar instead of the more senior Jack. Quite how men who are theoretically unemployed can go on strike and even mount an amateurish picket is not easy to understand: but Heno and Jack contrive to do so, with results that at first seem comic but have become ugly and distressing by the final curtain.

Still sounds an off-putting piece? But consider how much Murphy accomplishes with his shabby Dublin microcosm. He creates a world not unlike the real-estate jungle of David Mamet's *Glengarry Glen Ross*. Economic recession has brought competition so intense that few survive unless they bend or break the rules. Hence backhanders and bribes, hasty work and shoddy workmanship, and maximum exploitation of the black economy. But this does not mean that Murphy is writing the kind of dour propagandist piece fashionable when socialism still struck the idealistic as a cure-all.

On the contrary, he confounds every ideological expectation. Yes, Darragh Kelly's Martin is fly and tough — but how can you blame him when, as he says, it takes a week to read the names of every firm offering decorating services in the *Yellow Pages*. Yes, Stuart Graham's Lar is a bit of a boss's man — and why not, given the desperation and misery that unemployment has caused his family? Yes, Phelim Drew's Heno makes a stand for workers' rights, but in ways that suggest he has taken a degree in Advanced Iagoism.

Brothers of the Brush these painters are not. Instead, Murphy and his cast show us manipulation and callousness in a dog-eat-dog substratum disturbingly akin to society as a whole — and not in any abstract way. They make you feel the pain of grovelling to the man from the mortgage company and the terror of such humiliations recurring. They give flesh, or rather gooseflesh, to contemporary insecurity.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Pianist Julien Cheriyan, one of the BBC Young Musicians '96 finalists, talks to **Hilary Finch**

After Saddam, a real test

YOUNG AT art

At an echo's distance from the Great West Door of Wells Cathedral, in Somerset, the dance of Grieg's finale to his Piano Concerto is being pounded out on a sturdy old Bechstein in one of the cathedral school's practice rooms. Julien Cheriyan has momentarily put aside his A-level physics revision and is practising. On Monday, he won the piano final in the last heat of this year's BBC Young Musicians' competition, and he will be playing the concerto in the grand finale in Birmingham on Sunday.

His reasons for choosing the Grieg are revealing: "Because it *is* so overplayed! It is killed to death! I wanted to take on the challenge of seeing just what it would mean to *me*.

"Whenever I start learning a piece, I take it right away from the keyboard and just study the score in my head. That way you can explore everything. All I hope is that the work can be a new journey for the audience, too, however well they know the piece."

At 17, Cheriyan is in many ways an old head on young shoulders. And he has reasons for thinking that his Grieg just might be a little different. Born in Kuwait to a family of Indian physicians, he fell for the piano after hearing Scott Joplin's piano rags, played every evening at closedown on Kuwaiti television. By the age of six he had chosen his instrument; at seven he was on to Grade 5 and on his way to Wells Cathedral school. But at 11, just as he had gone home for the summer holidays, Iraq invaded Kuwait and he found himself caught up in the Gulf War.

"It changed the way I perceived music and the way I now play," he says. "You see things simply when you are 11. You don't *explore* your feelings. The war forced me to look into things I wouldn't have dared to contemplate for many more years, like the idea that you could die. Many friends were involved in uprisings; many from our flats died.

"And to watch the Iraqi soldiers ... they were some of the nicest people I'd met in the Middle East. But you'd watch them doing what they did, and you'd wonder if they were doing it because it was their job, or because they felt real hatred.

"Chopin is my favourite composer. Before the war, earlier in 1990, I'd been playing the *Revolutionary Etude*. Summer holidays came — and the invasion. When I turned to the piece again, for a concert, I found it had changed quite extraordinarily. It was a much, much deeper and more meaningful experience.

"There are such deep emotions there, such turmoil which, before, it had been impossible to access as a child. The war made me grow up."

Just as life had suddenly amplified music as Cheriyan's primary means of emotional expression and communication, so music had strengthened his own early days in England. When, as a small boy, he first set foot in Wells, it was music which enabled him to relate to those around him.

"I'd grown up in a fairly Westernised culture, but there were still fundamental differences. There were certain things that you just didn't talk about here. In my family we talked about everything. Nothing went unsaid — even if later on there were fights!

"And there was a little racism too, if I'm honest. I didn't really expect it here. But schoolkids of seven can be spiteful. And it was new for them, I guess, to have someone around who was, er, coloured, if that's the politically correct word at the moment."

DAVID HOWELLS

The Gulf War helped Julien Cheriyan to grow up quickly

But Cheriyan joined the junior choir, played chamber music and met his teacher John Byrne, "who never stifled what I had to say musically". He is now set for a degree course in physics at Imperial College, with music at the Royal College next door. His parents have retired to Wells, and, while his father turns his mind to his two great loves, philosophy and writing, Julien spends every spare minute rock-climbing. "I do have to be a bit careful, but I have fairly strong hands," he says in understatement.

"What I want to do most, though, is simply play. You should never enter a competition in order to win. I am just so thrilled that I have the chance to play — and to an audience. That opportunity to share what I think and feel is wonderful for me. It is my idea of heaven."

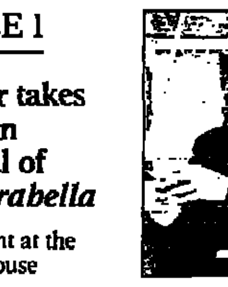
- *Julien Cheriyan plays Grieg's Piano Concerto at Wells Cathedral (01749 672970) tomorrow night at 7.30pm. Tickets £6*
- *The finals of the BBC's Young Musician '96 competition is on Sunday at 2.45pm in Symphony Hall, Birmingham (0121 2123333), broadcast on BBC2 at 7pm*

MANY HAPPY RETURNS!
- and departures and returns and departures and returns...
Andrew Lloyd Webber's Starlight Express celebrates its 12th birthday and 5,000th performance this week.
Many happy returns to the fastest show on Earth.
APOLLO VICTORIA THEATRE 0171 416 6070
WILTON ROAD (OPPOSITE VICTORIA STATION), LONDON SW1

■ CHOICE 1

Mark Elder takes up the baton for a revival of Strauss's *Arabella*

VENUE: Tonight at the Royal Opera House

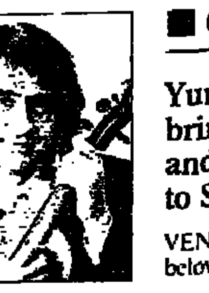


■ CHOICE 2

Peter Hall stages a Feydeau adaptation, *Emily Needs Attention*

VENUE: On tour this week in Richmond

THE TIMES ARTS



■ CHOICE 3

Yuri Bashmet brings viola and virtuosity to Scotland

VENUE: On tour, see below, left, for details

■ DANCE

***Cinderella* is treated to a splendid ball in ENB's superb staging at the Coliseum**

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

ARABELLA. The Opera House may have lost both its leads — Amanda Roocroft and Bryn Terfel — but the good news is that their replacements are the silvery soprano Cheryl Studer and Wolfgang Brendel as her Balkan suitor. Mark Elder conducts a revival of Strauss's romantic comedy, chock full of intrigue, deception and humanity, with Anne Howells, Lillian Watson and Stafford Dean in support.
Royal Opera House, Bow Street, WC2 (0171-304 4000). Tonight, Sat, 7pm ♿

HARRY AND ME. Opening night for Sheila Hancock, Ron Cook, Dudley Sutton in Nigel Williams's latest: a dark comedy recording the death throes of an appalling chat show. James Macdonald directs.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Apr 18, 3pm and Sat, 3.30pm. Until Apr 20

EMILY NEEDS ATTENTION: Peter Hall, Felicity Kendal and Gerald Scarfe team up again for a new production of Georges Feydeau's classic farce. Sparks fly as a master of the foibles of society looks at best friends, lovers and large inheritances; Neil Pearson, Nicholas Le Prevost and Alfred Marks join in the fun. Now on tour prior to the West End.
Richmond, The Green, Richmond (0181-940 0088). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. ♿

ELSEWHERE

INVERNESS: Viola player extraordinaire **Yuri Bashmet** is both soloist and conductor for this week's **Scottish Chamber Orchestra** programme. An interesting mix of old and new includes Hindemith's *Trauermusik* written in Britain the morning after George V died, and performed by the composer immediately upon completion.
Eden Court Theatre, Bishop's Road ♿ (01463 221718). Rpt Thurs in **Edinburgh**, Queen's Hall ♿ (0131-668 2019) and Fri in **Glasgow**, City Hall ♿ (0141-227 5511)

LIVERPOOL: Brad Cohen takes up the baton for tonight's **Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra** concert of Britten, Michael Nyman and Brahms. Nyman's music takes centre-stage again with a late-night showing of Peter Greenaway's magnificent *The Draughtsman's Contract*.
Philharmonic Hall, Hope Street (0151-709 3789). Tonight, 7.30pm; movie at 10.15pm ♿

LEEDS: Opening night for Anthony Clark's acclaimed production of Osborne's **The Entertainer**, with David Ross superb in the title role. Direct from its Birmingham premiere.
Quarry, West Yorkshire Playhouse (0113 244 2111). Tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Apr 3 and 17, 2pm and Apr 13, 3pm. No perf Apr 8. Until Apr 20. ♿

POOLE: Tonight's **Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra** programme takes on a French flavour, opening with Fauré's *Pelléas et Mélisande* and Canteloube's Songs of the Auvergne. Mahler's Symphony No 4 completes the performance; Tadaaki Otaka conducts.
Wessex Hall, Arts Centre ♿ (01202 685222). Fri in **Southampton**, Northguild ♿ (01703 632601). 7.30pm

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: Beirut: Uncovering the Past (0171-636 1555) . . **Courtauld**: Drawings by Thomas Gainsborough (071-873 2526) . . **Hayward**: Spellbound: Art and Film (071-928 3144) . . **National Gallery**: Picasso's Portrait of Angel Fernández de Soto (0171-747 2885) . . **National Portrait Gallery**: The Room in View (0171-306 0055) . . **Royal Academy**: Frederic Leighton (0171-439 7439) . . **Serpentine**: Jean-Michel Basquiat (0171-723 9072) . . **Tate**: Cézanne: Still But Not Silent: still lifes (0171-887 8000) . . **V & A**: The Leighton Frescoes (0171-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

- ■ *House full, returns only*
- ◪ *Some seats available*
- ☐ *Seats at all prices*

☐ **BONDAGERS**: Last of the Four Corners season: Sue Glover's acclaimed and richly atmospheric drama following six women of the 1860s at work on Borders farms. Ian Brown's production for Edinburgh's Traverse.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Previews tonight, 8pm, and opens tomorrow, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Apr 4, and Sat, 3pm. Until Apr 6. ♿

☐ **THE CHANGING ROOM**: David Storey's fascinating play about a rugby league team preparing for the weekly game. Third in the season of Royal Court Classics. Final week.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm ♿

◪ **CLOCKS AND WHISTLES**: Michael Cashman heads a talented young cast struggling with a menage a trois in late-night-London. Samuel Adamson's first play and Dominic Dromgoole's last production here as Artistic Director.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388). Previews tonight-Apr 1 8pm. Opens Apr 2, 7pm

☐ **DISGRACEFULLY YOURS**: Richard O'Brien plays the satanic host at Club Inferno, awesomely feeble, with ear-splintering rock songs.
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat 6pm and 8.30pm

☐ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND**: Triumphant return for Peter Hall's production of Wilde's drama of political sleaze and scandal. The star cast includes Martin Shaw, Anna Carteret, Pennie Downie.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. ♿

◪ **PASSION**: Michael Ball, Maria Friedman and Helen Hobson star in Sondheim's latest musical: set in 19th Century Italy where a young soldier is torn between his mistress and his colonel's intriguing, isolated cousin. Jeremy Sams directs.
Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5590). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

■ **ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD**: Simon Russell Beale and Adrian Scarborough play the attendant lords in Stoppard's first play, still entertaining after 30 years.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2.15pm ♿

■ **SKYLIGHT**: Outstanding playing by Michael Gambon and Lia Williams in David Hare's dramatisation of society's conflicts in the form of a prickly reunion between two lovers.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat 3pm.

■ **TAP DOGS**: Dein Perry's sextet of dancers in working-boots returns to its building-site set. High energy stuff, though some dance aficionados have been unimpressed.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Opens tonight, 8pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri, Sat, 6pm, 8.45.

◪ **TOMMY**: Hugely impressive staging of the traumatised child's apotheosis to pinball wizard. Loads of electronic tricks disguise the improbability.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm ♿

☐ **TRAINSPOTTING**: The current cult show, Irvine Welsh's drug-blasted, foul-tongued Edinburgh no-hopers. Bleakly funny now and then.
Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (0171-369 1735). Tue-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm, mats Wed and Sat 5pm, Sun 4pm.

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

CYCLO (18): Over-forceful portrait of Ho Chi Minh City's urban hell. From the director of The Scent of Green Papaya, Tran Anh Hung.
MGM Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470)

JEFFREY (18): Should a gay man have sex? Life-affirming comedy falls flat. With Steve Weber and Patrick Stewart. Director, Christopher Ashley.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666)

TOY STORY (PG): Computer-animated Disney delight with a cast of fretful toys. With the voices of Tom Hanks and Tim Allen. Director, John Lasseter.
Barbican ♿ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426-915 683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)
EL4

CURRENT

BRAVEHEART (15): Mel Gibson directs and stars in his Oscar-laden blood-thirsty epic about the 13th century Scottish rebel William Wallace.
Odeon West End (01426 915574)

◆ **CASINO** (18): Scorsese's epic of Las Vegas in the 1970s: glorious background detail, but the human drama flags. With Robert De Niro, Sharon Stone and Joe Pesci.
Empire (0171-437 1234) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)

LA CEREMONIE (15): The perfect housemaid gets her revenge on her employers. Absorbing version of Ruth Rendell's A Judgement in Stone, with Isabelle Huppert and Sandrine Bonnaire. Director, Claude Chabrol.
MGMs: Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Swiss Centre** (0171-439 4470) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148)

◆ **GET SHORTY** (15): John Travolta's loanshark takes on the movie business. Entertaining but trivial comedy from Elmore Leonard's novel. Director, Barry Sonnenfeld. With Danny De Vito, Gene Hackman, Renee Russo, Delroy Lindo.
Empire ♿ (0171-437 1234) **Gate** ♿ (0171-727 4043) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)

LEAVING LAS VEGAS (18): Nicolas Cage drinks himself to death. Striking, intimate drama from director Mike Figgis. With Elisabeth Shue.
MGMs: Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Swiss Centre** (0171-439 4470) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **NIXON** (15): Exhausting, overlong portrait with Anthony Hopkins and too much razzle-dazzle from Oliver Stone.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **RESTORATION** (15): Life and loves of a 17th-century physician (Robert Downey Jr). Costume extravaganza loses its way. With Meg Ryan and Sam Neill. Director, Michael Hoffman.
Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) **West End** (01426 915574)

◆ **SENSE AND SENSIBILITY** (U): Emma Thompson's radiant adaptation of Jane Austen's early novel, with Thompson and Kate Winslet as sisters with different approaches to romance.
Barbican ♿ (0171-638 8891) **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Curzons: Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **West End** (0171-369 1722) **Notting Hill Coronet** ♿ (0171-727 6705) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Hill** ♿ (0171-435 3366) **Watermans** (0181-568 1176)

STRANGE DAYS (18): Uncomfortable apocalyptic drama, with Ralph Fiennes as a trafficker in virtual reality. With Angela Bassett. Kathryn Bigelow directs.
MGM Trocadero ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0171-437 1234) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

Beautiful transformation

DEE CONWAY

Lisa Pavane as Cinderella, Greg Horsman as the Prince in ENB's joyous production

DANCE

Cinderella
Coliseum

This is just what English National Ballet needed. After Derek Deane's superficial *Alice in Wonderland*, a work that sorely under-utilised ENB's dancers, we get Michael Corder's new *Cinderella*, a work so filled with wonderful choreography that every person on stage looks reinvigorated by the sheer pleasure of dancing it.

Cinderella is the exact opposite of *Alice*. Everything in Corder's production is driven by the music and realised by steps (although to be fair to Deane, the music for *Alice* was no great shakes). There is no mime, no time-wasting dramatic posturing, no protracted comic nonsense. There are even no mice. The choreography says it all, and says it beautifully.

Corder grew up with Ashton's *Cinderella* — he was a dancer with the Royal Ballet for many years — but his version for ENB owes little to Ashton's pantomime-inspired example. The Stepsisters are ugly of spirit, not physique, and their cruel self-satisfaction and grotesque coquettishness are expressed through classical soloist dancing, not music-hall antics.

Corder's *Cinderella* is a much grander vision, in the tradition of 19th-century Russian ballet, and with greater psychological depth. Act III opens with the Prince tormented by a nightmare brought on by the sudden disappearance of the unknown woman who has captured his heart. The stunning apotheosis (designer David Walker's finest moment) places Cinderella and the Prince in a star-studded night world where the dancing is touched by the magic and mystery of transcendent love.

Corder clearly adores Prokofiev's brilliant score (he uses all of it). His dancers' bodies swoon over its lush, surging melodies, they happily sing along with its elegant punctuations, giddy with the musical rush that informs all of Corder's writing.

The choreography strikes deep: some of the best is for the ensemble, who frame the principals like a glittering necklace of well-cut jewels. Soloists also shine: the fairies of the four seasons, accompanied by cavaliers, offer pas de deux of intricate variety and characterful presentation (and they get to come back for more in the finale).

Like a true classicist, Corder knows how to build the corps de ballet into the action. Cinderella's send-off to the ball sees her escorted by a glamorous procession of fairies and stars. Her arrival at the palace (carried in on a young man's shoulders) is so attention-grabbing, it's no wonder the Prince is captivated by her before they are even formally introduced.

As for the principals, Corder knows how to make them look their best. Lisa Pavane is transformed in the title role, her dancing phrased with luxuriant fluency in the upper body, her flamboyant pirouetting display at the ball delivered with majestic confidence. Greg Horsman's Prince is no less accomplished, especially in his big numbers.

There are excellent performances by Elisabeth Miegge and Monica Perego as the Stepsisters; Emma Greenhalgh is a lovely Fairy Godmother. The ENB Orchestra (conducted by David Coleman on Monday night) acquitted themselves well in parts.

DEBRA CRAINE

JAZZ

Local boy made cool

IT IS now nearly 30 years since the famous occasion when Miles Davis walked into Ronnie Scott's and was so impressed with the bass playing of 22-year-old Dave Holland that he offered to take him to New York. The Wolverhampton-born bassist ended up playing on two seminal Davis albums, *In a Silent Way* and *Bitches Brew*.

To judge by the size and enthusiasm of the first-night crowd that greeted Holland at the scene of his former triumph, the legend "local boy makes good" is still a potent one. Holland has been at the heart of New York jazz since the early 1970s, playing everything from Circle's semi-abstract music with Anthony Braxton and Chick Corea, through "supergroup" work with Herbie Hancock, Jack DeJohnette and Pat Metheny to cutting-edge street-sound music with M-Base figures such as Steve Coleman. So it was no surprise to find that his current quartet consists of some of the most experienced and accomplished musicians around: vibes player Steve Nelson, saxophonist Eric Person and drummer Billy Kilson.

Dave Holland
Ronnie Scott's

Holland's is an exemplary bass sound: full, resonant and sonorous but flexible and propulsive enough to power the band through his deft, driving compositions. Typically Holland sets up a vigorous rhythm, courtesy of a lively repeated bass figure embellished by Kilson's smart kit work, and his front line then stretches out over it.

To the elegant, serious poise customarily associated with his European label, ECM, Holland adds an invigorating bounce and snap that is pure New York. The resulting music is cool and considered without being overly cerebral, carefully constructed but loose and informal enough to accommodate the formidable but tastefully restrained soloing skills of both Person and Nelson.

Such was the quartet's eagerness to stretch out on Holland's up-tempo tunes — and Person's tricky closer, *The Ringleader* — that four pieces entirely filled their 80-minute set. But it was a compact ballad, *In Your Arms*, that provided the evening's highlight for a highly supportive home crowd.

CHRIS PARKER

Why the charts are a load of rubbish

POP

Garbage
Brixton Academy

EVEN when a cutting-edge band carries the extra blade of radio-friendly melody in its armoury, there is still no guarantee it will make a killing. But, once in a while, a group will gravitate from the weekly music papers into the national consciousness on the back of a tune you can't stop humming.

And so it is with Garbage. Butch Vig's band was built around robust American guitar-wielding and the alluring vocal and visual presence of Scottish singer Shirley Manson. Any project by a former producer of Nirvana was guaranteed a few column feet, but the record still had to deliver. The quartet's self-titled debut album did that, and has spent five months in the UK charts.

Now, following singles chart success — most recently with the irresistible *Stupid Girl* — the band's palatably cynical take on mid-Nineties rock is ready for the next step. Garbage's arrival at London's largest "club" venue was every bit the celebration they have earned. This was an event to be seen at, one of those concerts that puts up its own little staging post in rock's twisted travels.

Queer, one of two previous hits from the *Garbage* album, was an effective opener, its subtle percussion submissive to a wall of guitars skilfully erected by Steve Marker and Duke Erikson. The mix on Manson prevented her vocals from filling the outer recesses of this huge room, but there was no doubting her magnetism as she rode the juggernaut riffs of *Fix Me Now* and *Bow Down to Me*. Nor does the innate coolness compromise a down-to-earth approachability. Manson, for one, is clearly enjoying their wild ride.

The quasi-orchestral *Milk*, meanwhile, underlined their maturity and depth. At a time when Britpop has practically imposed import restrictions on American rock, Garbage have created harmony in mid-Atlantic.

PAUL SEXTON

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

FROST AND REED, 16 Old Bond Street, London W1X 3DB. Tel: 0171 629 2457. Exhibition until April 19: Nineteenth Century ANIMAL PAINTINGS.

MICHAEL PARKIN GALLERY, 11 Motcomb St SW1 235 8144. Rose Cecil Pictures from the Galapagos 27 Mar-19 Apr 9.30am-6pm Mon/Fri.

The 1996 WELSH CONTEMPORARIES ANNUAL at ORIEL CONTEMPORARY ART, 25 Princess Road, Regent's Park, NW1. Open daily through April 2nd. 0171 483 1375

JONLEIGH GALLERY
THE STREET, WONERSH
NR GUILDFORD
Tel: 01483 893177
COLIN HAYES, RA
AND 50 CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS INCLUDING
24 ROYAL ACADEMICIANS
UNTIL 30th MARCH
Wed, Fri, Sat: 11-12.30, 2-5pm
Thurs: 2-5pm

EXHIBITION
RUSSIAN ART FROM THE 1930s
★ NOW ON VIEW ★
ROY MILES
29 Bruton Street W1

ART GALLERIES

THE PICCADILLY GALLERY, 16 Cork St. W1X 1PF 0171 629 2875. MAX BEERBOHM Mon-Fri 10-5.30 Sat 10.30-1.00 until 30th March.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300
ENGLISH NATIONAL BALLET
CINDERELLA Final Perf. Tonight
GISELLE 28 - 30 March

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 0171 304 4000 for Box Off & Standby info.
Tickets available on the day
The Royal Opera
Ton't (First Night), Sat 7.00
ARABELLA
Fri 7.00 LA TRAVIATA
The Royal Ballet
Mon, Tue 7.30 GISELLE
Celebrity Recitals
Tomor 7.30 NICOLAI GEDDA

THEATRES

ADELPHI
"ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE" Wall St Journal
SUNSET BOULEVARD
Winner of 7 Tony Awards including
BEST MUSICAL
Starring
PETULA CLARK
24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS CALL 0171 344 0055 (bkg fee)
GRP BOOKING 413 3302 (bkg fee)
No booking fee for Adelphi Box Office Callers
Recorded information 0171 379 8884
Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

ALBERY 369 1730/344 444 420 0000 Eves 7.45, Mats Wed, Sat 3
BEST MUSICAL
CRITICS' CIRCLE AWARD 96
BEST ACTOR
ADRIAN LESTER
BEST ACTRESS
SHEILA GISH
BEST DIRECTOR
SAM MENDES
OLIVIER AWARDS 1996
COMPANY
by Stephen Sondheim & George Furth
Mon-Sat 7.45, Mats Wed, Sat 3.00

ALDWYCH 416 6046/344 4444/420 0000(fee) Mon-Sat 8, Mats Thu 3, Sat 4
PETER BOWLES
"A Truly Stunning Performance" Sun. Express
DEBORAH GRANT CAROLINE LANGRISHE
"Extraordinary" S.Tm "Delicious" D.E
In NOEL COWARD's Classic Comedy
PRESENT LAUGHTER
"VINTAGE COWARD" M on Sun
"THIS STYLISHLY MOUNTED PRODUCTION - MORE COMIC THAN MOST" D Mail

ALDWYCH 0171 416 6003/312 8039 /344 4444 (No booking fee)
F. MURRAY ABRAHAM GEMMA JONES
TOLSTOY
by James Goldman
Previews from 25 April
Opens 30 April

APOLLO LABATTS HAMMERSMITH 416 6086 cc 344 4444/420 0000 (+bkg fee on all nos)
"ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER & TIM RICE'S BLOCKBUSTER" Gdn
JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT
starring PHILLIP SCHOFIELD
UNTIL APRIL 20
Tue-Sat 7.30, Mats Thu, Sat 3.00
EXTRA HALF-TERM MATINEES APRIL 4 & 11
Riverdance returns 16 May...

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 0171 416 6075/ 413 3321
Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of
STARLIGHT EXPRESS
"A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT" Daily Mail
White knuckle runs 19.45 daily
Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £12.50

ARTS 836 2132/420 0000
BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH
by Jimmy Murphy
Eves 7.30, Sat at 5.30 & 8.30

CAMBRIDGE BO & cc 0171 494 5054 cc (no bkg fee) 312 1992/ 344 4444 Grps 413 3321/ 312 1970/ 494 5454
FAME
THE MUSICAL
"FAME IS A FEEL-GOOD TRIUMPH" Mail On Sunday
"BREATHTAKING" Independent
Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

CHICHESTER FESTIVAL
until 30 March
ADAM FAITH in
Michael Frayn's
NOW YOU KNOW
"Utterly Enjoyable Comedy"
Sheridan Morley
BOOK ON 01243 781312

COMEDY 0171 369 1731/ cc 344 4444 (24hrs)
KEVIN WHATELY
TIMOTHY WEST PETER VAUGHAN
TONY HAYGARTH TIM HEALY
TWELVE ANGRY MEN
Directed by Harold Pinter
Previews from 11 April
Opens 22 April

COMEDY 0171 369 1731cc 344 4444
RICHARD O' BRIEN
in DISGRACEFULLY YOURS
"Entertainment Heaven" Time Out
ONLY 21 PERFS. Until 6 April
Eves 8pm. Sat 6pm & 8.30pm

DOMINION Ticketlines 0171 416 6060/ 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee). Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321/420 0200
GREASE
Starring RICHARD CALKIN and SAMANTHA JANUS
"Fast, furious & fun, fun, fun." Daily Mirror
Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3pm
TICKETS AVAILABLE - APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL SS cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 0171 494 5000/344 4444/420 0000 Grps 494 5454/413 3311/312 8000
MISS SAIGON
"THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME"
NOW IN ITS 7TH SENSATIONAL YEAR!
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm
Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs - apply B.O.
FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL BOOKINGS & PERSONAL CALLERS
0171 494 5060 (BKG FEE)

DUCHESS cc 0171 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/420 0000 (bkg fee) 0171-413 3321 Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30
"A SAUCY COMEDY" E. Std
NOW IN ITS 6th YEAR
DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER
"Gloriously Outrageous" T.Out

DUKE OF YORK'S 0171 836 5122/8837 cc 420 0000/344 4444 (24hrs, no fee)
ROYAL COURT CLASSICS
David Storey's
Classic Sporting Celebration
THE CHANGING ROOM
"unity, camaraderie, joy" Times
"masterly, flawless" D.Mail
"exhilarating" I on Sun
Eves 7.30, Mats Thu & Sat 3.00
SEASON ENDS 30 MARCH

FORTUNE BO & CC 0171 836 2238/0171 312 8033
BARRY STANTON MICHAEL HIGGS
Susan Hill's
THE WOMAN IN BLACK
Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt
"The most thrilling and chilling play for years" D.Mail
NOW IN ITS 8TH YEAR
Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Tues 3pm Sat 4pm

FORTUNE SUNDAYS 3.30 pm
"Quite Astonishing" BBC
Elizabeth Mansfield as MARIE
Booking to July

GARRICK 0171 494 5085/ 0171 312 1990 (no bkg fee)
Some Experiences You Never Forget
WINNER OF 19 MAJOR AWARDS
The Royal National Theatre production
JB Priestley's
AN INSPECTOR CALLS
"THRILLING...MUST BE SEEN" D.Mail
"One of the most intoxicating, theatrically imaginative experiences of the 1990s" Eve. Stand
"TWO HOURS OF ENTHRALLING, VISUALLY STUNNING DRAMA" D.Tel
Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 5.00 & 8.15, Wed mat 2.30

GIELGUD 494 5065/344 4444 /420 0000
'A star team juggling with star material...COMEDY AT ITS ZENITH' Mail on Sunday
TOM CONTI SHARON GLESS
'Wonderful' D.Ex 'Luminous' D.Tel
CHAPTER TWO
"NEIL SIMON AT HIS BEST" S.Tel
"Tender, funny & deeply touching...marvellous" D.Mail
Mon - Fri 8, Mats Thu 3, Sat 5 & 8.15

HAYMARKET 930 8800
cc 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee)
THE PETER HALL COMPANY
Martin Shaw Anna Carteret
Penny Downie David Yelland
Michael Denison Dulcie Gray
OSCAR WILDE'S
AN IDEAL HUSBAND
Eves 7.45, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00
LAST 4 WEEKS
PRIOR TO BROADWAY
"GREAT & GLORIOUS" S. Times

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 494 5454/413 3311/930 6123
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
Directed by HAROLD PRINCE
NOW BKG TO DEC 96
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00.
Apply to Box Office daily for returns

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 0171 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 tkt serv chg) 420 0000 Grps 0171 494 5454
JIM DALE
RETURNS TO THE WEST END
"A MAJOR THEATRICAL EVENT" Daily Mail
OLIVER!
2ND SPECTACULAR YEAR
'LIONEL BART'S MASTERPIECE YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE' S.Times
Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30
SOME GOOD SEATS AVAIL NOW FOR WEEKDAY PERFS

LYRIC 0171 494 5580/ 344 4444 (bkg fee)
WINNER 95 & 96 OLIVIER AWARDS
Dein Perry Best Choreography
TAP DOGS
Opens Tonight at 8pm

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252: Grps 0171 620 0741;24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000
OLIVIER Ton't 7.15, Tomor 2.00 & 7.15 A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC
Music & lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by Hugh Wheeler
LYTTELTON Ton't 7.30, Tomor 2.15 & 7.30 ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD Tom Stoppard
COTTESLOE Ton't 7.30, Tomor 2.30 & 7.30 FROGS Aristophanes in a new adaptation by Fiona Laird

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079 24hr 0171 344 4444/420 0000
Grps 0171 413 3311/930 6123
THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL
CATS
Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00
LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT.
Bars open at 6.45
LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.

OLD VIC 0171 928 7616/312 8034
'ALAN BENNETT'S SUPERB ADAPTATION' F.T.
The Royal National Theatre's
THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS
"AN IRRESISTABLE PIECE OF THEATRE" LNR
" A wonderful evening " F.T.
"AN ABSOLUTE WINNER" Time Out
Season ends 27th April
Mon - Sat 7.30pm
Wed & Sat mats 2.30pm
LAST 5 WEEKS

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171-344 4444 Grps 0171 413 3311
THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL
LES MISERABLES
NOW IN ITS 11TH RECORD-BREAKING YEAR
Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30
Latecomers not admitted until the interval
LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee)
BEST MUSICAL
Olivier/Drama Awards
Plays & Players/Ivor Novello Awards
WILLY RUSSELL'S
BLOOD BROTHERS
STEPHANIE LAWRENCE
STEFAN DENNIS CARL WAYNE
"Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail
Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

PICCADILLY 0171 369 1734
cc 24hrs 344 4444,
Grps 312 1970/413 3321
WINNER!
BEST MUSICAL
Evening Standard Award '95
Jerry Herman & Michael Stewart's
MACK & MABEL
THE HOLLYWOOD ROMANCE
Mon-Sat at 7.45
Mats Wed & Sat at 3.00
Due to National Lottery Appearance
Sat 30 March at 3.00 & 8.30
Now Booking to 7 January '97

PLAYHOUSE 0171 839 4401 /0171 420 0000/0171 344 4444
SYLVIA SYMS HENRY McGEE
LYNDA BARON RAY COONEY
TREVOR BANNISTER
PETER ELLIS RON ALDRIDGE
& RODNEY BEWES
IN RAY COONEY'S NEW COMEDY HIT
FUNNY MONEY
NOMINATED BEST COMEDY
1996 OLIVIER AWARDS
"LAUGHS GALORE... A WINNER" D. Exp
"Better than Feydeau... priceless" D. Tel
Mon-Sat 8.00, Mats Thu 3.00, Sat 5.00
NOW BKG THRU 1996

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 5400
First Call 420 0100 (24hr Bkg fee)
344 4444 Groups 420 0200
Cameron Mackintosh presents
MARTIN GUERRE
A New Musical by
BOUBLIL & SCHONBERG
FROM 21 JUNE
Ticketholders for perfs prior to 21 June please contact Box Off

PRINCE OF WALES 839 5972/ 420 0000/ 344 4444
ELVIS
RED PRICE PREVS NOW!
Mon-Thurs 8, Fri & Sat 5.30 & 8.30

QUEEN'S 494 5590/344 4444/ 420 0000
MICHAEL BALL
MARIA FRIEDMAN
in Sondheim/Lapine's
Award-winning musical
PASSION
RED PRICE PREVS NOW
Mon-Sat 7.45, Mats Wed, Sat 3.00

SAVOY 0171 836 8888
cc 0171 420 0100 (no bkg fee)
ANGELA THORNE
COMMUNICATING DOORS
by ALAN AYCKBOURN
"WONDERFULLY FUNNY AND GENUINELY SCARY" D.Tel
Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00
Wed mat all seats £12

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399
0171 413 3588 (24hr/no bkg fee)
Groups 0171 413 3321
TOMMY
PAUL KEATING as Tommy KIM WILDE as Mrs Walker
"BREATHTAKINGLY IMAGINATIVE...UNMISSABLE" I
Mon-Sat 8pm, Wed & Sat 3pm

ST MARTIN'S 0171 836 1443 (no bkg fee) 0171 344 4444 (bkg fee) 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee)
Groups 0171 312 1994 (no bkg fee)
Eves 8, Tues 2.45, Sat 5 & 8
44th Year of Agatha Christie's
THE MOUSETRAP

STRAND THEATRE Box Off & cc (no fee) 0171 930 8800
cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/420 0000
Groups 0171 413 3321/0171 436 5588
BUDDY
The Buddy Holly Story
"BRILLIANT" Sun
BUDDY
"WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel
BUDDY
Tues-Thurs 8.0 Fri 5.30 & 8.30
Sats 5.00 & 8.30, Suns 4.00
ALL SEATS 1/2 PRICE FRI 5.30 PERF
7th HEAVENLY YEAR

VAUDEVILLE 0171 836 9987 cc 344 4444/420 0000 (no bkg fee)
PETER GREENWELL
"The best Noel Coward since Noel Coward" Alan Jay Lerner
A TALENT TO AMUSE
The Words & Music of Noel Coward
LAST WEEK
Mon-Sat 8.00, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

VAUDEVILLE 0171 836 9987
344 4444/420 0000
Julian Slade's
SALAD DAYS
Directed by NED SHERRIN
"As light as sherbet" Times
Previews from 17 April

VICTORIA PALACE BO & cc (no fee) 0171 834 1317 cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/312 1999/497 9977
Groups 0171 312 1997 (no fee) /0171 436 5588 (bkg fee)
WINNER
1996 OLIVIER AWARDS
BEST MUSICAL
JOLSON
with
BRIAN CONLEY
JOLSON
"A RESOUNDING HIT"
Sunday Telegraph
On Monday Nights
Allan Stewart will play Jolson
Evgs Mon-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00
NOW BOOKING TO FEB '97

WHITEHALL 369 1735/344 4444/ 420 0000
TRAINSPOTTING
"One of the events of the year" Observer
Tues-Fri at 8, Sat at 8.30
Mats Wed & Sat at 5, Sun at 4

WYNDHAMS 0171 369 1736 (no bkg fee) /344 4444 (bkg fee)
MICHAEL GAMBON LIA WILLIAMS
BEST PLAY Olivier Awards
SKYLIGHT
by DAVID HARE
Directed by RICHARD EYRE
"ONE OF THE PLAYS OF THE DECADE" Int. Herald Tribune
LAST 5 WEEKS
Mon-Sat 8.00 Mat Sat 3.00

To advertise in The Times theatre listings please call our entertainments team on 0171 481 1982 or fax 0171 481 9313.

هجذا من الامس

■ FESTIVALS

From the twinkling flute of James Galway serenading the visitors to Monte Carlo . . .

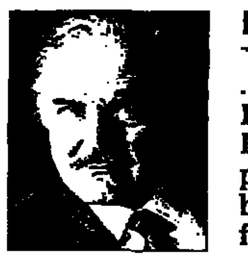
■ FESTIVALS

. . . and the superb Anne Sofie von Otter at the court theatre in Drottningholm . . .

THE TIMES ARTS

■ FESTIVALS

. . . to Jonathan Miller's new production of *Idomeneo* at Florence's Maggio Musicale . . .



■ FESTIVALS

. . . and Carlos Fuentes in Biarritz: we present the best European festivals of '96

Kate Bassett chooses the highlights of the summer season of European cultural jamborees, from Brescia to Vienna

Festive delights across the Continent

APRIL

Brescia-Bergamo Pianistico: Dozens of pianists descend on the two towns, Evgeny Kissin among them. Claudio Abbado conducts the Chamber Orchestra of Europe with Pavarotti.
April 22-June 16: Festival Pianistico Internazionale di Brescia e Bergamo, c/o Teatro Grande. I-25121 Brescia, Italy (39 30 293022).

Budapest: The Budapest Spring has grown to a month to mark the 1,100th year of the Magyar settlement: classical musicians — mostly Hungarian — plus dance, drama and folk culture. The Budapest Summer falls in June with a flowering of theatre.
Budapest Spring until Apr 14; Budapest Summer June-Aug: Budapest Interart Festivalcenter, PO Box 80, H-1366 Budapest, Hungary (36 1 1179838).

Copenhagen, Cultural Capital of Europe 96: Strong theatre and dance from Stein, Mnouchkine, Suzuki, Lepage, Meredith Monk, Pina Bausch and ballet troupes. Meanwhile, 96 artists create installations in cargo containers at the harbour. An acoustic project fills Copenhagen's plazas and parks with the sounds of other cities. Symphony orchestras in the summer. April for early music, jazz in July. *Hamlet: the Rock Ballet* will be floating on the moat at Elsinore.
All year: (Danish Tourist Board 0171-259 5958 or Copenhagen 96 on 45.33.779633)

Flanders: A range of music around the region. Early music blossoms most notably in Bruges (July-Aug). Contemporary composers elsewhere, while Brussels considers the sounds of exile (Sept-Oct).
To Dec: Festival van Vlaanderen, Ravensteinstraat 60, B-1000 Bruxelles, Belgium (32 2 5489595).

Monte Carlo: During the Printemps Des Arts, the Riviera glimmers with star concerts and young soloists. Katia and Marielle Labèque tickle the ivories; James Galway pipes up. Compagnie Antonio Gades arrives with *Carmen* and *Fuente Ovejuna*.
April 6-May 12: Printemps des Arts , 8 rue Louis Notari, MC-98000. Monaco (33 93158303).

Schwetzingen: Spring music in the intimate rococo theatre and castle. Concerts with Barbara Moser and more. Scarlatti's *Mitridate Eupatore*.
April 30-June 6: Schwetzinger Festspiele GmbH. Postfach 106040. D-70049 Stuttgart. Germany (49 711 9293038).

MAY

Bergen: In picturesque Bergen, concerts are held in the homes of Grieg and Ole Bull, erstwhile competitor of Paganini. Other venues: the medieval King's Hall and art nouveau National Theatre. The line-up embraces the Boston Camerata and cellist Truls Mork. In drama, Silviu Purcarete is filling in Aeschylus's missing bits with a 120-strong cast.
May 22-June 2: Bergen International Festival. Box 183, N-5001 Bergen. Norway (47.55312170)

Dresden: Rare operas. Dresden dedicates itself to Mozart's Viennese contemporaries. Salieri's *Falstaff* and Cimarosa's *Il matrimonio segreto*. Also the premiere of *Der Zerbrochene Krug*, the last opera Viktor Ullmann penned at Theresienstadt concentration camp. There is also a programme of world-class concerts, some of them given *en plein air*.
May 16-June 2: Dresdner Musikfestspiele. Postfach 202723, D-01193 Dresden, Germany (49.351.4866317)

Drottningholm: The royal court theatre still has its 18th-century machinery from moving waves to cloud cars. Operas and ballets are reconstructed with period instruments: *Orphée et Euridice*, *Tom Jones*, *La serva padrona* and *Il maestro di musica* this year. Anne Sofie von Otter gives recitals in costume.
June 1-Sept 14: Drottningholms Slottsteater, Box 27050. S-102 51 Stockholm, Sweden (46.8.6651400)

Florence Maggio Musicale: A big bout of opera including a new production of *Idomeneo* directed by Jonathan Miller. Graham Vick stages Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*. Also *Elektra* from Lev Dodin. Chamber music, recitals and a mini film fest. The Tokyo Ballet and al fresco activities in the amphitheatre.
May 2-June 27: Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Teatro Comunale. Via Solferino 15, I-50123 Firenze. Italy (39.55.2779-1)

Holland: Amsterdam's mega arts melange pays attention to contemporary composers, choreographers and theatre. Works by William Forsythe with the Nederlands Dans Theater. Premieres by Stockhausen, Donatoni, Kurtag, Xenakis. John Eliot Gardiner conducts Beethoven's *Leonore* staged as tableaux vivants. Martha Clarke directs a new opera about Marco Polo by Tan Dun.
May 31-June 30: Holland Festival Information, Kleine-Gartmanplantsoen 21, NL-1017 RP Amsterdam, Netherlands (31.20.6276566)

Ludwigsburg: Strewn with Baroque palaces, Ludwigsburg hosts high-class concerts and some opera. The vast Residenzschloss provides an intimate court theatre. More music in the capacious modern concert hall, which also encourages boundary-leaping creations. Choreographic highlights: Merce Cunningham and Trisha Brown.
May 31- Sept 15: Ludwigsburger Schlossfestspiele, Postfach 1022, D-71610 Ludwigsburg, Germany (49.7141.9396-0)

Prague Spring: A fine frolic for classical music lovers. The Japan Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra and the Moscow Soloists are on the cards. In the first week of September, Prague also hosts a Dvorák String Quartet Festival.
May 12-June 2: Prague Spring Festival, Hellichova 18. 118 00 Praha 1, Czech Republic (42.2.532489)

Vienna: A grand and daring festival, featuring much theatre and music. Catch Robert Wilson's production of Marguerite Duras's *La maladie de la mort*; Chekhov and Pushkin directed by Eimuntas Nekros, who was hailed as a genius by Arthur Miller. Meanwhile there are top-notch conductors and soloists: Riccardo Muti, Riccardo Chailly and Dame Kiri among them. Vienna focuses, warily, on Austrian culture, plus wacky takes on Danube waltzes, and ballet to be viewed with 3-D glasses.
May 10-June 16: Wiener Festwochen, Lehargasse 11, A-1060 Wien, Austria (43.1.589220)

JUNE

Arjeplog: Revel amid the arts in the light of the midnight sun.
June 28-July 7: Arjeplog-Lappland Bessoksservice AB. Box 4, S-930 90 Arjeplog. Sweden (46.961.14270)

Athens/Epidaurus: Ancient Greek drama at Odeon of Herodes Atticus under the Acropolis and in the amphitheatre at Epidaurus.
Athens June-Sept; Epidaurus July-Aug. (Greek Tourist Board 0171-734 5997)

Bad Kissingen: Symphonies, Lieder and chamber music complemented by the spectacular royal concert halls and fin de siècle playhouse in the Bavarian spa town once frequented by Tsars. Holzmair, Schiff and lots more.
June 20-July 14: Kissinger Sommer Festival, Postfach 2260, D-97672 Bad Kissingen, Germany (49.971.807110)

Feldkirch Schubertiade: Romantic countryside and a spread of Schubert. The Junge Meister part of the Schubertiade, with young musicians, falls in May at Schloss Achberg. Chamber concerts crop up during September. The central Feldkirch summer season starts with Cheryl Studer followed by Peter Schreier. Beethoven is also celebrated.
June 18-29: Schubertiade GmbH. Villa Rosenthal, Schweizer Strasse 1, Postfach 100, A-6845 Hohenems, Austria (43.5576.72091)

STEPHANIE COLASANTI

The arena at Verona, where thousands enjoy open-air stagings of opera in the Roman amphitheatre each summer

Granada: Granada plays tribute to Manuel de Falla on the fiftieth anniversary of his death. The festival also includes works by his Parisian friends Debussy, Ravel and Stravinsky. There are recitals in the Arab courtyards of the Alhambra; symphonies in the monumental Palacio de Carlos V; and — in the gypsy neighbourhood of Sacromente — flamenco soirées.
June 21-July 7: Festival Internacional de Musica y Danza, PO Box 64, E-18080 Granada, Spain (34.58. 222111)

Ravenna: Opera: Roberto De Simone's Neapolitan *Cosi* with the Vienna Philharmonic. Also Rattle and Boulez. Dance with Antonio Gades. Theatre: Marco Martinelli stages *All'Inferno*, dedicated to Aristophanes, in the Sulphur Warehouses at the Docks.
June 16-July 21: Ravenna Festival. Via Dante Alighieri 1, I-48100 Ravenna, Italy (39.544.213895)

Reykjavik Arts Festival: The biennial is back in the Icelandic capital. An opera premiere from Jon Asgeirsson; Butoh dance from the USA; pop with David Bowie, Björk and Pulp.
Through June: Reykjavik Arts Festival, P.O.Box 88, Is-121 Reykjavik, Iceland (354. 5612444)

St. Petersburg White Nights: The sun scarcely sets and the Maryinsky Theatre, formerly the Kirov, offers opera, ballet and concerts. Bands in the streets. Night boat trips along the Neva. St Petersburg has also been picked for European Month Of Culture in June.
Last two weeks of June: (Intourist 0171-538 8600)

Schleswig-Holstein: Classical music in churches and country barns round Germany's most northerly state.
June 25-Aug 20: Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival Info, Jerusalemberg 7, D-23568, Lubeck, Germany (49.451.38957-0)

Spoleto: Operas and concerts in Umbria including Handel's *Semele* and Mahler in the piazza. A spot of dance, theatre, cinema and art too.
June 26-July 14: Associazione Festival Dei Due Mondi, Via Cesare Beccaria 18, I-00196 Roma, Italy (39.6.3210288)

Umea/Korsholm: Cellist Frans Helmerson's linked music festivals celebrate Brahms and others. Midsummer nights and intimate concerts in small towns by the sea.
Umea Chamber Music Festival, June 15-19 (46.90.163466). Korsholm Music Festival, FIN-65610 Korsholm/Mustasaari, Finland (358.61.322 2390)

Venice: There are two biennales scheduled: one for film (*Aug 28-Sept 7: 39.41.5218711*); the other for architecture in the international pavilions.The latter's theme is libraries.
Architecture Biennale from Sept 6: (Brett Rogers at the British Council 0171-389 3032)

JULY

Aix-en-Provence: The two operas in the court of the Archbishop's Palace are Mozart's *Entführung* and Handel's *Semele*. A dozen big concerts. Young talent in the cloisters. Chamber music everywhere.
July 12-30: Festival International d'Art Lyrique et de Musique, Palais de l'ancien Archeveche, F-13100 Aix-en-Provence, France (33.42173400)

Avignon: An arts fiesta which takes to the streets with theatre, music and dance.
July 9-Aug 4: (33.90.826708)

Antibes-Juan-les-Pins: France's big jazz bash by the beach, a stone's throw from Cannes and Nice.
July 17-26: (33.92.905300)

Bayreuth: Immensely famous. Epic in scale. Wagner's operas in rotation.
July 25-Aug 28: Bayreuther Festspiele GmbH, Postfach 100262, D-95402 Bayreuth, Germany (49.921.78780)

Bregenz: On Lake Constance with a floating stage, Bregenz celebrates its fiftieth. Rare operas and new sounds. Chausson's *King Arthur*, Beethoven's *Fidelio* revived and a premiere from Georg Friedrich Haas. Orchestral concerts and drama from Berlin's Deutsches Theater.
July 20-Aug 23: Bregenzer Festspiele, Postfach 311, A-6901 Bregenz, Austria (43.5574.4920-223)

Dubrovnik: Music, drama and folk art in the now-peaceful city.
July 10-Aug 25: Dubrovnik Festival, P.O.Box 132, 20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia (385.20.412288)

Galway: Make merry with a medley of the arts.
July 17-28: Galway Festival, P.O.Box 123, Galway, Ireland (353.91.583800)

Gstaad: Music among the Alps. Join founder Yehudi Menuhin in a giant tent and good company: Yuri Bashmet, Thomas Allen et al. On the side Carl Davis conducts the music for Chaplin movies.
July 19-Sept 7: Musiksommer Gstaad-Saanenland, Menuhin Festival/Alpengala AG, Postfach 382, CH-3780 Gstaad, Switz.(41.30.48838)

The Hague, North Sea Jazz: A big noise. Blues, salsa and stars. Daily crowds of 23,000.
July 12-14: (31.15.2157756)

Kuhmo: Quality chamber music in the country. Kuhmo is a little town in the forests. Schumann, Brahms, modern music from Poland.
July 14-28: Kuhmo Festival, Torikatu 39, FIN-88900 Kuhmo, Finland (358.86.6520936)

Munich Bayerische: A grand feast of opera. David Pountney's *Aida*; Gunter Kramer's *La Traviata*; *Cosi fan tutte* from Dieter Dorn and Peter Schneider. Also Donizetti's *Anna Bolena* directed by Jonathan Miller. Meanwhile, Bayerische State Ballet dance to Luigi Nono. The Munich Film Festival (*June 29-July 6: 49.89.3819040*) overlaps.
July 1-31: Bayerische Staatsoper, Munchner Opern-Festspiele, Postfach 101404, D-80088 Munchen, Germany (49.89.2185-1920)

Orange Opera: Summer night song in the Roman amphitheatre. Ruggero Raimondi is Don Giovanni followed by Verdi's *La forza del destino*.
July 6-Aug 3: Choregies d'Orange, B.P. 205, F-84107 Orange Cedex, France (33.90.518383)

Pori: International jazz blasts the old factories. Jamming in the parks.
July 13-21: Pori Jazz, Etelaranta 6, FIN-28100 Pori, Finland (358.39.550 5550)

Salzburg: Outstanding music surrounded by elegant Baroque architecture. Masses of opera including Schoenberg's *Moses und Aron* from Pierre Boulez and Peter Stein who also directs *The Cherry Orchard*. Top orchestras under Solti, Mehta and more.
July 20-Aug 31: Salzburger Festspiele, Postfach 140, A-5010 Salzburg, Austria (43.662.8045)

Savonlinna: Operas and concerts in the courtyard of Olavinlinna Castle. Wagner's *Tännhauser* together with *The Flying Dutchman*. The Maryinsky Theatre's *Mazeppa*.
July 6-Aug 3: Savonlinna Opera Festival, Olavinkatu 27, FIN-57130 Savonlinna, Finland (358.57.576750)

Torre Del Lago Puccini, Lucca: Puccini's operas by the composer's villa. *La Bohème*, *Manon Lescaut* and *Turandot* on a stage that juts over the lake.
July 20-Aug 17: (39.584.350567)

Vadstena Academy: New and rare early operas in Vadstena's Old Theatre within the monastery walls and at Wasa Castle. Georg Benda's *Walder* with period instruments, then Carl Unander-Scharin's new *Tokfursten* ("The King Of Fools").
July 3-Aug 10: Before June 1 - Vadstena Academy, Bergsgatan 57, S-112 31 Stockholm, Sweden (46.8.6526180); After June 1: Vadstena Academy, Lastkopingsgatan, S-592 32 Vadstena, Sweden (46.143.12229)

Verona: Summer opera reverberates round the splendid Roman arena: Zeffirelli's *Carmen* alongside *Aida*, *Nabucco*, Rossini's *Barber of Seville* plus Prokofiev's ballet *Antony and Cleopatra*.
July 5-Sept 1: Ente Lirico Arena di Verona, Piazza Bra 28, I-37100 Verona, Italy (39.45.590109)

HOW TO GET THERE

Specialist travel companies include:
- ● Brompton Travel (0181-549 3334): *Verona, Munich, Vienna*
- ● City Escapades (0181-748 4999): *opera*
- ● Chamber Music Holidays (01202 528328): *Prague String Quartet Festival*
- ● Habsburg Heritage (0181-761 0444): *Mondsee, Eisenstadt, Prague Spring*
- ● Intourist (0171-538 8600): *Russia*
- ● Page & Moy (0116 2524433): *St Petersburg White Nights, Prague Spring*
- ● Prospect Music and Art Tours (0181-995 2151): *Prague, Budapest, Mondsee, Eisenstadt, Kuhmo, Munich, Salzburg, Savonlinna, St Petersburg, Verona, Bregenz*
- ● Martin Randall Travel (0181-742 3355): *Prague, Feldkirch Schubertiade, Verona, Savonlinna, Pesaro, Drottningholm, Eisenstadt*
- ● Travel For The Arts (0171-483 4466): *St Petersburg, Torre Del Lago, Florence, Verona, Pesaro, Drottningholm, Savonlinna*

AUGUST

Helsinki: A cocktail of the arts with a youthful spirit. Concerts, club evenings and movies in the festival tent.
Aug 18-Sept 1: Helsinki Festival, Rauhankatu 7 E. FIN-00170 Helsinki, Finland (358.0.1354522)

Lorient: Celts amass in Brittany for the formidable Festival Interceltique: bagpipes, bombards, big folk rockers, filmmakers. The focus is on Ireland.
Aug 2-11: Festival Interceltique, 2 rue Paul-Bert, 56100 Lorient, France (33.97.212429)

Lucerne: Late summer in Switzerland with a concert a day, or two, or even three. From the New York Philharmonic to the Paris-based Les Arts Florissants.
Aug 17-Sept 11: Internationale Musikfestworchen Luzern, Postfach, CH-6002 Luzern, Switz. (41.41.2103562)

Pesaro Rossini: Rossini bequeathed his entire fortune to the town council in Pesaro where he was born. The place now revives his operas and music to international applause, often staging lesser-known works and uniting performers with the musicological experts. This year *Riccardo e Zoraide*, *L'occasione fa il ladro*, and the comic melodrama *Matilde di Shabran*.
Aug 10-24: Rossini Opera Festival, Via Rossini, 37, I-61100 Pesaro, Italy (39.721.34473)

Utrecht Early Music: Medieval and baroque musicians invade Utrecht, milling between the canals and cafés. The Gabrieli Consort, the King's Noyse. Steve Reich offers a premiere based on old sounds.
Aug 30-Sept 8: Holland Festival Of Early Music Utrecht, Postbox 734, NL-3500 AS Utrecht, Netherlands (31.30.2362236)

SEPTEMBER

Aarhus: Scandinavia's major multi-arts spree. There is a jazz festival in early July too.
Sept 7-15: Aarhus Festival, Officersbygningen, DK-8000 Aarhus C, Denmark (45.89318270)

Berlin: A major event for classical music fans. Berlin's fine orchestras are joined by Andreas Schmidt, Vladimir Ashkenazy and Gunter Wand. Star recitals and chamber ensembles.
Sept 2-30: Berliner Festspiele, GmbH, Postfach 301648, D-10748 Berlin, Germany (49.30.25489-250)

Biarritz: Every autumn this French resort is swamped in Latin America culture to coincide with the glittering film season. This year there are literary conversations with Carlos Fuentes, Gabriel García Márquez, as well as exhibitions, music, cabaret. Surf the arts.
Sept 26-Oct 6: (Office du tourisme, Square d'Ixelles, 64200 Biarritz, France (33.59. 223700)

Brno: Czech orchestras and other European musicians meet for the Moravian Autumn season. Two weekend concerts in castles. Before that the Easter Festival of Sacred Music (*until April 14*).
Sept 26-Oct 12: Brno International Music Festival, Ars/Koncert, Komenskeho nam. 8, 60200 Brno, Czech Republic (42.5.42215116)

Eisenstadt: Amid the vineyards, Haydn is celebrated in Esterhazy Palace and the churches of Eisenstadt where he once lived. The Austro-Hungarian Haydn Orchestra is at the heart of the festival. A chance to see *Philemon und Baucis* staged with actors and marionettes, Trevor Pinnock wielding the baton.
Sept 5-15: Schloss Esterhdzy, A-7000 Eisenstadt, Austria (43.2682.618660)

Linz Brucknerfest: The Austrian maestro's music is aired alongside Beethoven, Haydn, Eder and others.
Sept 7-30: Linzer Veranstaltungsgesellschaft (LIVA), Brucknerhaus, Postfach 57, A-4010 Linz, Austria (43.732.7612)

Mondsee: Founded by Andras Schiff, this top-notch chamber music festival in the lakeside village of Mondsee contemplates Mendelssohn and the Second Viennese School. Concerts are in the restored Theatresaal amid the monastic buildings.
Sept 6-14: Musiktage Mondsee, A-5310 Mondsee, Austria (43.6232.2270)

THE TIMES

Save £35 on tickets to see the Broncos

PLUS win a weekend trip for two to see Paris Saint-Germain v London Broncos

THE London Super League rugby season kicks off next weekend and *The Times* is offering readers the opportunity to buy a season ticket for the London Broncos home games for £75, saving £35 off the normal season ticket price of £110.

Super League rugby is a fast, exciting sport all the family can enjoy with entertainment before the kick-off and at half-time. And their base, at Charlton Athletic football club's ground, The Valley, in southeast London, has good public transport connections and car parking.

With your season ticket you get:
- ● reserved seats for 11 home games (including two FREE games)
- ● a commemorative T-shirt
- ● London Broncos cap
- ● no queueing for tickets

Forward Darren Shaw, right, has played for the London Broncos, who can trace their roots back to Fulham, for three years. He also played for Scotland in the World Cup and Super League Nines.

You could also win a trip to France to see the London Broncos away game against Paris Saint-Germain on Sunday, July 14 by entering our competition below.

Season ticket credit card hotline 0891 776 6670

HOW TO ENTER

For your chance to win a weekend trip for two to Paris with tickets for the Super League rugby game, simply phone your answers to the following two questions to: **0181 81 81 38** before midnight tonight.

1. From which London club can the Broncos trace their roots?

2. How long has Darren Shaw played for the London Broncos?

Calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate and 49 per minute at all other times

TO ADVERTISE
CALL: 0171 680 6806

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX:
0171 481 9313

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

£20,000 + EXCELLENT PACKAGE

This high profile position requires several years experience at director level. You will offer full support to the Chief Executive of this prestigious international organisation. The London office consists of a small, dynamic team but is part of a larger group. Conversational German would be an advantage. Shorthand 80wpm. Typing 60wpm. MS Word, Excel.
Please telephone 0171 628 9529.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

WATCH THIS SPACE

£20,000

Launch your career into orbit by joining this advanced technology communications company. If your strengths lie in efficiency, organisation, juggling numerous tasks and making things happen, you are the gem sought by the Programme Director. Stable secretarial/admin cv, 60wpm typing, W4W/Powerpoint.
Please telephone 0171 628 9529.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ENTREPRENEUR

£18,000 NEG

Extremely varied role working for the MD of this family run business with diverse interests including property, fashion and antiques. You must be flexible, team orientated and possess effective organisational skills with the ability to handle own projects. 80/50 skills. Age 25-35.
Please telephone 0171 495 2321.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

VICTORIA

C£20,000 + BANKING BENEFITS

Prestigious Investment Bank would like to meet pro-active secretaries with large company experience, used to a fast paced environment. Team players with strong organisational skills and outgoing personalities a must. Windows experience essential with graphics desirable.
Please telephone 0171 495 2321.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

LUCRATIVE CONTRACT

£22,000

Those who are free for six months should consider joining this City based Chairman who is used to (and wants to continue to receive) total support from his PA. Extensive itinerary planning, organisation of European events and attendance at Board meetings comprises this high profile and exceptionally interesting role. Skills 100/70. Please telephone 0171 628 9529.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

HOBSTONES

STOP!

Are you free this lunch time?

Do you want to support a highly motivated team and build your own career?

HOBSTONES SECRETARIAL INSURANCE SEMINAR MIGHT BE THE ANSWER

TODAY at 1.30 pm we will have two leading professionals from the insurance market who will offer advice and answer all your questions. Refreshments will be served from 12pm.

Please call Annabel Bingham or Lisa Bloomfield on 0171 377 9919 to reserve a place or we look forward to seeing you here at 29, Sun Street, EC2

Nearest tube - Liverpool Street

RECRUITMENT

WA

c£20,000 + Bens

SPRING INTO PR!

Do you enjoy a varied role, liaising with newspaper editors through to MPs, juggling an hectic schedule and being one step ahead? Our client, a well known PR Consultancy, needs a PA/Sec with excellent skills (100/60) to work for their charming Senior Director. Initiative and energy are vital for handling this role, as are strong communication skills and enthusiasm. To hear more about this superb opportunity, call us now.

0171 225 1888

VICTORIA WALL ASSOCIATES

---

to £10 p.h.

If you've got it, we want it.

It may be your superior communication skills or perhaps your limitless energy..

It may be your proactive outlook and your exceptional secretarial skills..

It may be that it's time for a career move and you need us to find that perfect job for you..

Or perhaps you need that freedom to temp..

MAINSTREAM

TEL: 0171 495 1830 FAX: 0171 355 1395

WORK IN BANKING !!!

£12,000 - £25,000 + MS + BENS

We currently have many excellent opportunities for confident Secretaries to work within some of London's most prestigious Banks. Ranging from 2nd jobber openings in Corporate Finance up to PA 1:1 positions. If you are looking for a career change, please call now!!!

Please contact Melinda Marks or Jane Edwards.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd.,
No.1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 1242

secretaries

REGAN AND DEAN + ADLAND MEDIA SECRETARIES

We have a huge variety of permanent and temporary opportunities for PAs and Secretaries at all levels. Our Client base includes Advertising, Design, PR, TV/Film Production, Radio, Theatre and Event Management.

The essential qualities you will need are:

- Competent Secretarial and Office Administration/WP Skills
- A good standard of education (Graduates are welcome, but secretarial training and experience is essential)
- Excellent social skills and a keen sense of humour
- Flexible, ambitious and career minded team players
- Experience in any of the above or any other Creative Industry

Call us now to make an appointment to come in for an informal chat to discuss your CV.

63 South Molton Street
London W1Y 1HH
Tel: 0171-409 3244 Fax: 0171-409 6430

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT £23/24,000.

Are you graduate calibre and looking for a challenge? If so, this evolving role working for the D-G of a Trade Association may be for you. He will be reliant on your administrative, communication and secretarial skills. You will co-ordinate his busy life, organise formal functions and manage ad hoc projects. French a bonus. Flexibility and sense of humour a must.
Please ring Mitchell Young Rec. Cons. 0171 588 3055.

MAYFAIR SEC
£17,000

Enjoy a superb 1:2 role assisting at senior level, lots of involvement within very prestigious & extremely friendly W1 Co. 50wpm typ, W4W, audio. 23-35yrs.

Val Wade Rec Cons
0171 437 3793

MAY & STEPHENS

Compliance PA, £20,000 Legal or Banking B'ground

A highly administrative and evolving key role has arisen within a leading US investment group for an alert, methodical, confident communicator to become a true right hand to their Company Secretary and Compliance Officer. Your experience will come from either a legal or banking environment with your role incorporating a high degree of contact with the trading floor and close involvement with Board Level issues. Windows and spreadsheet experience a must. Age mid 20s - late 30s.

Tel: 0171 488 9922 Fax: 0171 702 3331

City Recruitment

Judy Farquharson Ltd.

SENIOR PA/OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

with a flair for personnel and high level of numeracy to work for leading international property consultants. Carrying out confidential PA work for Board Director and overseeing support staff in high profile West End office. A level + education, 70+ s/h. Up to £22,000 + bens.

47 New Bond St. London W1Y 9HA
TEL: 0171-493 8824 Fax: 0171-493 7161

JFL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PERSONNEL to 20K

We have three exciting opportunities within very different HR environments. These roles offer the chance to develop management skills, embrace exciting training initiatives, and handle a range of recruitment issues. You should be able to demonstrate proven administration and interpersonal skills, two years experience within personnel, together with an outgoing and confident personality.

Please call Monique Cooke or Portia Lineham
For TEMPORARY Personnel contracts please call Jan Williams.

A division of Graduate Appointments

SECRETARIAL & TEMPORARY
appointments

Tel: 0171 379 0333
Fax: 0171 379 0113
7a Langley Street
London WC2 H 9JA

YOU'RE THE ONE WE WANT!

Can You Organise The Boys? No Shorthand, No Audio
St James' £18,500 + Benefits

We are looking for strong organisers who are able to co-ordinate a team of consultants who have clients both nationally and internationally. There is no chance of getting bored in this 9 am to 5.30 pm role. Good working knowledge of WordPerfect for Windows is essential.

Senior Secretary For 2 Directors 90wpm Shorthand
City £19,500 + Exceptional Banking Benefits

If you have at least two years Banking/Finance experience, we have two charming directors who want to hear about you. The role will be a 50/50 split between secretarial and administrative duties, incorporating a significant amount of liaison with UK and overseas offices. Word for Windows knowledge is a prerequisite.

CAN WE TEMPT YOU?

HIGHLY COMPETITIVE RATES

For first class long and short term temporary assignments, including temp to perm situations, Pan European should be your first port of call.

IMMEDIATE SHORTHAND ASSIGNMENTS (Min 90wpm)

- Director's Secretary (Banking) - 4 weeks +
- Chairman's Secretary (Stockbrokers) - 1 month
- Junior Secretary (Insurance) - 1 month

IMMEDIATE AUDIO ASSIGNMENTS (Min 60wpm)

- Personnel (Insurance) - 6 months
- Administrator (Banking) - 3 months
- Team Secretary (Asset Management) - 2 months

If you have good shorthand and audio skills, are aged between 20-40 years and have a good working knowledge of Windows based packages -

PAN EUROPEAN RECRUITMENT

Please call us immediately on
0171-734 8484
Fax 0171 734 8501

Partner's Sec/PA -

25+ required for small but busy surveyors office. Knowledge of Word Perfect for Windows 6.1 and property experience essential.

£20,000 + Bonus - 20 days annual leave.

Tel: 0171 631 1923

- Ref: SEB/CJB.

DUTCH BANKING PA TO GEN MANAGER

To £21,000 pa + bens sought by City-based Dutch bank. High level of responsibility and autonomy working in a friendly and unhierarchical environment. Senior sec/PA exp with conv Dutch, 50wpm and W4W 6/WP 5.2 ess. Age 30-45.

The Language Business
0171 379 3189 (Rec Cons)

BPRI

Business Planning & Research International

Dynamic Market Research Agency requires enthusiastic, self motivated individual to provide desk top publishing services to researchers. The job involves preparing high quality client presentations with the occasional necessity to help with general office duties. The ideal candidate will be experienced with Harvard Graphics for Windows and also preferably WordPerfect for Windows. However we will consider candidates with Excel, Powerpoint or Lotus Freelance experience, if willing to re-train. Salary £17,000 plus benefits.

Please send/fax CV and current salary details to

Sadie Wright, Senior Project Manager, BPRI, Waterloo Court, 10 Theed Street, London SE1 8ST. Fax: 0171 928 1448.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT
Basic £15,000 - £20,000 + comm

Young, friendly City consultancy are expanding and need an additional consultant preferably with at least one year's experience. Good career prospects. Full training provided if you are ambitious, motivated and have good communication skills.

Call Nicola Hicks on 0171 638 6060 for more details.

Rec Cons

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

c£24,000

Fantastic position for a top-notch, professional Executive Secretary to assist the President International Operations & Board Member of this prestigious international marketing company. Superb secretarial skills (s/h essential), Windows & Freelance Graphics expertise, ability to prioritise a heavy workload and keep a high level of confidentiality, excellent interpersonal skills and proven track record at this level are all essential qualities for this extremely high profile role. Ideally aged 30-40.

Call HAZEL BRANDON, 0171-403 1528

SEGAL RECRUITMENT

The Carousel Consultancy Ltd

FINANCIAL PA IN LEGAL

to £19,000 + benefits

City law firm needs a proactive PA with minimum 3 years high-level experience in financial environment. Spreadsheets, correspondance, reports and ad hoc projects. Legal experience not necessary. W4W and Excel essential. Benefits include discounts, free health care, pension and sub. rest.

Russell Chambers,
The Piazza, Covent Garden, London
Tel: 0171 240 2833

The Carousel Consultancy Ltd

CORPORATE PA

£21,500

International blue chip company with fantastic perks need a talented PA. Reporting to 2 directors you will need strong administration and organisational abilities. Arraying internal and external meetings, juggle diaries and handle admin. Immediate start.

Ramillies Buildings, 1/9 Hills Place,
Oxford Street, London
Tel: 0171 734 7277.

SENIOR PARTNERS PA
(No Shorthand)
c£21,000

Assisting a charming professional within the Management Consultancy division of this Blue Chip Company. Providing full secretarial support including complex diary and travel arrangements. This is an extremely interesting position working in a lively, friendly yet demanding environment. A'level standard of education preferred.

Contact GILLIAN THOMPSON for further details on 0171 621 1304. Pertemps Emp Agy.

SNR Shorthand PA
C£22,000

Senior Sales and Marketing Director of financial City Co requires an outgoing, organised PA with min 80wpm shorthand/60wpm typing. Position offers variety and tremendous scope. Working on a 1-to-1 basis. Age 25-40.

Call MICHELLE SAYERS on 621 1304.
Pertemps Emp Agy.

Personal Assistant

Literature Department

- We are looking for an experienced and enthusiastic PA to provide a comprehensive secretarial and administrative service to the Director of Literature and a Literature Officer. The postholder will also be responsible for the smooth running of the department's office systems.
- Applicants must have at least two years' PA experience (including office management), possess fast and accurate word processing skills, effective communication skills and proven experience of prioritising a heavy workload. The ability to organise and minute meetings is essential. An interest in current developments in the literature world is desirable.
- Recruitment range is £13,082-£15,600 dependent on experience. 22-25 days annual leave. Non-contributory pension scheme.

For further details and an application form, please send a large (at least 8"x5") self-addressed envelope, quoting ref: LIT, to the Personnel Department, The Arts Council, 14 Great Peter Street, London SW1P 3NQ. Alternatively, telephone 0171 973 6448 between 10am and 4pm only. Minicom number (for deaf callers) 0171 973 6564. Closing date for receipt of completed applications: 12th April. Interviews are likely to be held on 19th April 1996.

The Arts Council aims to enable everyone to enjoy the arts. We are committed to an equal opportunities recruitment policy. Registered disabled people are currently under-represented within our workforce and their applications will be considered first.

THE ARTS COUNCIL OF ENGLAND

HOBSTONES

Spring into Action! Temp to £10 per hour

Spring has most definitely sprung at Hobstones with bookings shooting up in every direction.

We are constantly looking to expand. our high-calibre team of secretaries and receptionists. If you have 60wpm typing and advanced knowledge of windows packages, or have reception experience using several switchboards, we would love to hear from you.

City 0171 377 9919
West End 0171 437 6032

RECRUITMENT

HOBSTONES

West London up to £24,000 + exc bens

Major International corporation requires 2 top calibre PA's for the HR and International departments. Working at this senior level you'll be undertaking project work as well as managing very busy schedules so initiative and enthusiasm are a prerequisite. A' levels and shorthand desirable as well as experience at a senior level a knowledge of Microsoft Office. Benefits and long term prospects are excellent!

Call Caroline Galan for more details. 0171 437 6032

RECRUITMENT

HOBSTONES

High Flyer! To £22,000 + bonus

International banking consultants based in the West End require experienced PA to provide senior level support. The role requires initiative and flexibility combined with the ability to manage constantly changing priorities. Experience of working for more than one person and 80wpm shorthand essential. Previous banking experience would be an advantage.

For more information please call Isobel on 0171 437 6032.

RECRUITMENT

---

a new direction?

join Britain's top specialist holiday company

Crystal Holidays, one the fastest growing tour operators in the UK, is looking for two highly motivated individuals to join its Client Relations & Quality Control Department.
Only those with travel or related experience gained in a similar role should apply.

ASSISTANT MANAGER :
A proven track record in a Client Relations management position is required.

LEGAL EXECUTIVE :
With suitable legal experience.

Competitive salary and benefits.

Please send your C.V. to:
The Managing Director, Crystal Holidays Ltd., Crystal House, Arlington Road, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 6BW

Crystal HOLIDAYS 15 ANNIVERSARY

Reception/Secretary
£12,000

H.O. of luxury goods retailer requires a superb communicator to join their buzzy marketing & PR dept. Projects & fun guaranteed for person with flexible team approach.

Call St. James Consultancy
0171 589 1866.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR package to £26,000

Due to expansion this major International Blue Chip co. are seeking a self motivated, graduate calibre individual to co-ordinate business management, handle financial/management information + resource allocation. Previous planning/running of business experience + an interest in finance ess. Exc prospects + ben's

PERSONNEL ADMIN/SEC c£18K + BENS

Supporting the personnel dept in this tip top financial org your day will be varied + interesting, 70% admin/30% sec. A highly organised + professional individual who is well educated + personable would suit this role. Lots of involvement offered. Exc ben's

SECRETARY - CITY package to £17,000

Excellent opportunity for a young (20's) qualified secretary to progress up the career ladder in a rapidly expanding dept within an International blue chip org. Liaising daily with large, household name clients, diary/travel co-ord, DTP ++. Superb ben's + prospects.

FOR FURTHER INFO. + AN IMMEDIATE INTERVIEW PLEASE CONTACT ERIKA THORNE ON 0171 626 8989 OR FAX ON 0171 626 8990 AT AA APPOINTMENTS (REC CONS)

PA TO DIRECTOR

Charity commited to research and development within the field of Mental Health are seeking a PA to work for their Director.

You must have excellent organisational abilities, sound secretarial skills, good written and verbal communication and be able to work on your own initative.

In addition to having worked at this level before, experience of producing agendas and minuting of meetings is essential. Experience of, or an interest in, Mental Health issues would be advantageous.

London SE1 Salary to 18,500 pa

Contact: Kim-Marie Preston
Lifeline Personnel Ltd
Tel: 0171 499 7747
Fax: 0171 499 7767
(Rec Cons)

Lifeline
A Helping Hand in Recruitment

JOSLIN ROWE
secretarial recruitment consultants

SECRETARY/PA
C.£19,000 + BENS EC4

This professional US law firm is seeking to recruit a bright and efficient secretary/ PA to support a Senior Partner who travels extensively. If you can demonstrate commitment and initiative then we would like to hear from you! This is a 1:1 role requiring excellent audio typing (60 wpm) and shorthand skills (80 wpm). Legal experience is desirable but by no means essential, although secretaries who have worked in a similar area will appreciate the volume of typing and the necessity to work to tight deadlines. Offering complete autonomy you will feel totally involved and therefore achieve job satisfaction. Age open.

Joslin Rowe Associates Ltd
Bell Court House
11 Blomfield Street
London EC2M 7AY
Telephone: 0171 588 7287
Facsimile: 0171 382 9417

MASTERLOCK RECRUITMENT

PA TO CHAIRMAN £30,000 - £35,000

Organise personal/ business affairs of top investment banker. High level banking exp combined with a traditional outlook, cultural interests and familiarity with the rules of etiquette. Skills: 100/60

TEMP TO PERM up to £16,000

Successful design studio need a competent yet easygoing secretary. Skills: 55wpm, W4W.

Please call Kerry McClelland
Tel: 0171 929 5252 Fax: 0171 621 1679

MASTERLOCK RECRUITMENT

Tel: 0171 929 5252 Fax: 0171 621 1679

COULD YOU BE PA.....

For an International Businessman working in an isolated but beautiful location?
Are you strong in I.T. with Internet skills? Can you operate on your own for quite long periods? Package includes Tax free salary Circa 15K, house included!
A mature, experienced single status all rounder with outgoing personality is sought, handling heavy workload and quite long days!

Persuade me quickly - With letter/CV
Please Reply to Box No 4201

Expanding design Consultancy close to Tower Bridge requires

Secretary/ PA to director

Duties to include general secretarial, marketing & sales (UK & Overseas) support, maintaining directors diary. Excellent organisational & communication skills essential. Knowledge of Lotus Smartsuite an advantage. The position will command a salary based on experience.

Please contact Ashley on 0171 237 6736 for further information.

LEGAL SECRETARY

Peters & Peters, West End Law Firm, require a Legal Secretary for a Partner in the Litigation department. Must be familiar with Word Perfect 5.1, and or Microsoft Windows/ Word 7. Salary circa £17,000.00 neg.

Written application with full CV to:
Peters & Peters/ JR, 2 Harewood Place, London W1R 9HB

PA/ OFFICE MANAGER
£18,000 + bonus

Exceptional opportunity for a highly organised confidential PA to act as Recruitment Co-ordinator and Office Administrator to the private client sales floor at this leading international bank. W4W and Excel essential.

Telephone Tracy at Hudson York Farrell:
0171 638 0303
fax 0171 638 4300

Property Galore!

c£17,000 p.a.

Excellent Opportunity!

As PA/Office Manager (mid/late 20's) you will liaise with clients, manage the office and take care of all the day-to-day correspondence etc. You will need an impeccable phone manner, self-motivation and good secretarial skills.

JOYCE GUINESS PARTNERSHIP
0171 589 8807
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

AIR MILES Travel the World

Where else can you collect AIR MILES awards just for doing your job?

0171-390 7000

AIR MILES and the Flying Boat logo are trademarks of AIR MILES International Holdings N.V. AIR MILES awards are held and issued for use subject to AIR MILES Customer Terms and Conditions.

Crone Corkill

Temporary Recruitment

To £17,000
Secretary/ Office Manager

An excellent opportunity for a versatile, computer literate 2nd jobber looking to develop their organisational skills in a small, fast growing PR consultancy. Your day will vary from dealing with maintenance companies and mounting press cuttings to making travel arrangements and organising client events. A mature outlook and understanding of the less glamourous side of PR are essential!

Contact Amanda Johnson
38 South Molton Street, London, W1Y 1HA
Tel: 0171 495 8668 or Fax: 0171 499 8344

SOUTH MOLTON APPOINTMENTS

PA TO SNR. M.D.
TO £25,000 + BENS

U.S. Brokers req confident P.A. to support the Snr. M.D. recently seconded from N.Y. now responsible for their London operation. The role req's a high level of initiative & self-motivation, your boss will be demanding & the workload client-driven, encompassing all admin/P.A. duties to strict deadlines in close liaison with int. offices. Previous exp (5 yrs +) of wkg in a similar environment at M.D. level, good MS office & a steady work record is essential.

MARKETING ASSIST - FUND MANAGERS
£23,000 + BENS

Working for the marketing dept servicing an international client base, this graduate role is responsible for the production of presentations/mktg material using pagemaker & MS office plus all other mktg duties. Numeracy, 2 yrs work exp, adv pagemaker and relevant degree ess.

Tel: 0171 929 1281 Fax: 0171 621 0985

MONUMENT
Personnel Consultants

SECRETARY/COPY TYPIST

(Knowledge of shorthand) for Partner and his team of Building Services Engineers typing reports, specification, general correspondence. Must be fast accurate typist (Microsoft Word), have a flexible attitude and enjoy a friendly team atmosphere. Would suit 2nd jobber. CV stating current salary to: Ann Buckley, F C Foreman & Partners, 17 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W OBD

Previous applicants need not reapply

Alexandra Beaumont

Recruitment Consultants & Marketing Consultant
£Highly Competitive + Excellent Bonus Scheme

Alexandra Beaumont is a progressive and dynamic secretarial recruitment consultancy. We have an established and impressive track record in recruitment and following our success in 1995 we continue our planned expansion. We have a unique opportunity for highly or newly experienced consultants.

We offer:

- A work hard/play hard environment with total involvement.
- Stylish and spacious new offices.
- A sell sell work ethic with realistic targets and excellent bonus scheme.

In return we only ask that you have relevant secretarial recruitment industry experience, and the motivation and ability to succeed!

Please call or fax your c.v. All applications will be treated with absolute confidentiality.

Tel: 0171 404 7314 Fax: 0171 404 7399

PRESTIGIOUS PA
£18-20,000 + Superb Benefits

Challenging role with plenty of scope for development. You will be involved in project management, extensive client liaison and allocation of partners time along with the more normal diary, travel and secretarial support. You will need to be committed to a career as the hours can be long & work demanding. Excellent organising + prioritising skills need to be combined with a proactive & practical approach. 60wpm audio + 4 yrs sec. exp in a large professional environment. Maths/Eng GCSE C+ ess. MS Office packages pref.

Tel: 0171 287 3664
Fax: 0171 287 3564

NEXT EMPLOYMENT

ACME appointments

INVOLVEMENT PLUS
£17,000 + PACKAGE

Prestigious West End group currently require a team player with a emphasis on client involvement to support an equity partner and his small team of associates. Ongoing training and future career development are taken very seriously by this group, so a career minded candidate is essential. WordPerfect 6 for Windows + 70wpm typing.

Call 0171 629 7232 ACME Apps.

JOSLIN ROWE

secretarial recruitment consultants

FACILITIES SECRETARY
C.£19,000 + BANKING BENS VICTORIA

AAA rated Investment Bank require a cosmopolitan secretary to support 2 Managers within a highly motivated and friendly team. This position offers total involvement and the chance to progress. Candidates must display initiative and a willingness to learn. You will preferably have 'A' levels (or good grades at GCSE), solid experience (possibly within Property/ Finance Sector) and strong evidence of co-ordination and admin skills in previous roles. Any European Language is useful (French/ German) in this international environment. Excellent system skills inc Lotus, Excel, W4W, and database experience are required, along with faultless secretarial skills (audio essential).

Joslin Rowe Associates Ltd
Bell Court House
11 Blomfield Street
London EC2M 7AY
Telephone: 0171 588 7287
Facsimile: 0171 382 9417

TOP TEMPS TEMP FOR ZARAK HAY COMMERCIAL & LEGAL

Bookings throughout the City and West End await good calibre secretaries looking for assignments ranging from a few days to six months maternity cover. All WP packages catered for, especially those with Word for Windows, WordPerfect (Dos and Windows), 5.2 on Applemac, Powerpoint plus other graphic and spreadsheet packages.

Immediate Bookings
Temp to Perms Available
Top Rates
Regular Work
City/West End Client Base

ZARAK HAY

Call Carolyn Benjamin or Lorna Simpson on 0171 247 0303

YET MORE OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITIES...
TO £24,000

EXPANDING COMMUNICATIONS CO - 24K - Outstanding challenge for Graduate calibre PA/ Sec to make impact/ contribution to hugely successful Vice Pres.

WEST END BANKING - 23K pkg - Sociable Co with stunning offices/ facilities urgently require bright, punchy, hard working, organised candidates with excellent skills and one year's experience plus.

HORSE RACING - 18K 80 sh/55 is the key for working for this famous co...

TEMPS - to £10.50 - we would love to hear from anyone with 50 typing and good WP skills.

0171 235 8427

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

SEC - TRADING FLOOR
£22,000 + FULL BANKING BENS

Excellent opportunity to support 3 very senior managers; a completely hectic role where you will be fully involved in the day to day trading floor administration. Must be PC literate, a team player, sociable and lively with an excellent sense of humour and bags of confidence.

Call Sarah Turnbull.
Telephone: 0171 588 8999

CHAIRMAN'S PA
£23,000 + PKG (C£8,000)

Full Pa duties; co-ordinate diaries, research speeches, organise schedules & meetings, travel arrangements, liaise with counterparties, accountants, senior management, create systems, research new projects, run the office. Shorthand, good PC skills and experience from financial sector all essential.

Call Emily Aldrich
Fax: 0171 588 8998

Aldrich & Co Ltd
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Contact Kim St. John if you want to Temp in the City

PA / SECRETARIES
£18 - £21,000 + EXC BENS

Suit well educated, dynamic career Secretaries aged between 21 - 40. These demanding roles will involve supporting Directors and Partners challenging diary organisation / complex travel itineraries, client liaison and much more. Must have senior level exp, exercise tact and diplomacy, strong interpersonal skills along with knowledge of WordPerfect 6.1, W4W, Excel & Word 5 an advantage.

Tel Wendy on 0171 287 0220

Portman Recruitment
181 Oxford St W1
Fax: 0171 287 1060

PORTMAN
west end 0171 • 287 0220

PA TO FINANCE / PERSONNEL DIRECTOR
6 mth maternity contract £18 - 20K pro rata

Leicester Square based Advertising company are looking for a dynamic PA aged 25 - 35 with experience of working in personnel and finance. If you have fast typing and shorthand (even if rusty) and are looking for an involved position, please call Lynn or Sara for immediate interview on 0171 287 0220.

Portman Recruitment
181 Oxford St W1
Fax: 0171 287 1060

PORTMAN
west end 0171 • 287 0220

MOVE TO PARIS Fr 170K & BENS

Leading international law firm require a fast, accurate PA/secretary to assist their dynamic senior partner. Legal experience or banking/ accountancy considered. Windows, shorthand and fluency in French essential.

Please call Peter Francis 0171 623 9000.
Capital Law Appointments, Botolph House,
39-40 Botolph Lane, London EC3R 8DE.

A Well Kept Secret
£12,000 - £25,000
Packages

13,000 people work in Canary Wharf, there are 12 restaurants and pubs, 32 top name shops and several superb health clubs. Canary Wharf is 2.5 miles or 12 minutes from Bank and will soon be serviced by the extended Jubilee line. Some of the best secretarial jobs in London are also in Canary Wharf. We currently have positions for College leavers, team secretaries, sales assistants, and top PAs. Top salaries, exciting benefits. **Call Karen Levine on 0171-390 7000.**

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Too Good To Be True
c£24,000
Staines

Two senior directors in this multi-national company seek a committed and outgoing PA to cater for their individual needs, organise and keep track of their whereabouts and liaise internationally. Using your excellent corporate and legal experience, you will quickly become a crucial member of this fast moving team. Excellent secretarial and administrative skills will enable you to cope with the pace of this demanding environment. Age 30 - 45 yrs. If you have MS Office and are keen to discuss this further call **Susanna Hargreaves on 0171 434 4512.**

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Be Selective
£18,000 pa
St James

A new division of a high profile selection company requires an energetic graduate calibre secretary. Acting as linchpin for a dynamic Associate Director you will have the opportunity to liaise with high profile clients, manage a database, control the diary and generate your own correspondence. This represents a superb opportunity for the right person to develop with time into a more consultative based role. If you have drive, commitment and a proven secretarial track record including 60 wpm+ copy typing, audio and WP **please call Alison Scott on 0171-434-4512.**

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Research/ Administrator
to £18,000

City investment house require a graduate calibre administrator. The main focus of the role is library maintenance, scanning the papers daily for relevant articles and data manipulation. In addition you will produce research reports and format tables and graphs for presentations. This is a role with lots of autonomy and you will need previous research experience combined with good secretarial skills. 50 wpm/spreadsheets/DTP. 22-35yrs. **Please call Susan Weaver 0171 390 7000.**

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

EXCEPTIONAL AUDIO SECRETARY REQUIRED - AGE APPROX 25

For a small but growing retail property company. 5 mins from Green Park u/ground. First class skills, sense of humour and the ability to be a team player are essential.

Hours: 10am to 6pm
Salary: Circa £16,000 pa
Please tel Rod Pearson on 0171 321 0399 or Fax CV to 0171 321 0839
NO AGENCIES

EXPERIENCED OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Excellent opportunity for an efficient, highly organised person with basic book keeping and PAYE skills and proven administrative experience. Must be computer literate and enjoy using own initiative to help run a small, thriving company in SW11.

Please call Jenny Mitchell on 0171 738 2038 (No agents)

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

NORTH FINCHLEY CHALLENGE
IN YOUR 30s, 40s or 50s?
£18-20,000

This very successful business communications company needs a mature individual who can expertly manage an interesting job. You'll be responsible for business co-ordination (running courses for clients), office management (you need typing - Windows for your own correspondence) and marketing (new business and new strategies). You need to be gregarious, well presented and have a flexible personality.

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Fluent Written/Spoken Spanish
A SPANISH CHALLENGE
£20-25,000 + TRAVEL

This is an absolutely fantastic opportunity to work with the young President of an international, elegant, Mayfair company. You will be a true right hand. When your boss is away you step into his shoes, when it's a major piece of business you travel abroad with him. You must be personable and 150% dedicated. Fluent Spanish (English MT) is a must. If you have good PA exp, please call asap.

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION/ADMIN
UP TO £16,000

This very elegant and very international Mayfair company needs a friendly, non-ambitious receptionist (up to 45) to be their 1st point of call. You must be pro-active because you will be really involved in the day to day running of the company. This is a lovely glamorous company, so you must be friendly, organised and professional.

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CELEBRITY PURSE STRINGS
£16,000 + BONUS + STL

Where do the celebrities go, the private billionaires and the entrepreneurial millionaires when they need their tax return sorted out? Here! This smart company with beautiful offices, need an early 20s to 30 bubbly and friendly secretary to work with two great managers. You need 60+ typing, and excellent organisation. Sounds like you, pls call asap!

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

STARS IN THEIR EYES...
£12,000

Dazzling lights and colours are some of the things people see at conferences and parties across London. The stunning effects are organised by this unique company, and they need a 19+ person for telephoning, a little typing (30+) and whatever. Interested...have some work experience. Want something new? Give us a call (You'll need transport).

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

LONG/SHORT TERM TEMPS

If you have good secretarial skills (W4W / Ami Pro / Freelance; 50wpm, shorthand useful), are looking for short or long term temp work, and the support of a helpful team, then call Jane Weyman at Tate Appointments on 0171 408 0425 NOW!

Tate

TEMP TO PERM OPPORTUNITIES

If you are temping and looking for a permanent job too, we currently have temp to perm positions available in various industries for experienced Secretaries and receptionists at all levels. Call Jane Weyman at Tate Appointments on 0171 408 0425

Tate

For our major client the European Bank for Reconstruction & Development.

Excellent Pay
Holiday Pay
Full Benefits Package

We currently require experienced secretaries with 60 wpm for a variety of temporary opportunities. A City or financial background would be ideal. Shorthand always useful.

If you have the required word processing knowledge and are looking for work within a challenging international environment, supported by an attractive pay and benefits package, please call Clare Hannaby on 0171 488 2880 or send your CV to: Manpower PLC,
78 Fenchurch Street,
London EC3M 4BT.

MANPOWER
There's more for you

SENIOR PA

Private Company in Mayfair dealing with The People's Republic of China

MD seeks Senior PA to manage his demanding business and private life. You must be efficient, possess excellent organisational skills and work on your own initiative. You must be computer literate, prepared to do general office/secretarial work, and feel confident liaising with all levels of people from office staff to senior government departments.

You are consistently unflappable and take pressure in your stride. Event organisation would be advantageous. Age 30+. Typing 70 WPM and Shorthand 110WPM Salary £25k (negotiable). Pension, STL and PPP.

If you really enjoy looking after someone on a one to one basis then please send your CV with references and covering letter stating why you think you would be suitable for the postition and your current salary
To: London Export Corporation Box No 4695.

---

circa £16K EC1

Royal Mail International, a division of The Post Office, is a flourishing £4 billion business.

Personal Secretary to Directors

Our International team is looking for an enthusiastic and proactive secretary to provide full support to the Director of Marketing and Sales (UK Markets), the Director of Marketing and Sales (World Markets), plus some team support.

You should be able to converse fluently in French, and also able to copy and audio type in that language. Demonstrably efficient in Word 6, Powerpoint 4 and Excel 5, you will also be familiar with The Organiser 3 and Lotus Notes 3.21. Excellent at prioritising, time management and communicating, you must be able to cope under pressure whilst remaining courteous with colleagues and customers at all times. Normal working hours will be 10.00am to 6.00pm although you may be required to stay late at short notice.

To apply, please send your CV, including current salary details, to Rachel Bouchier, Royal Mail, Royal Mail House, 148 Old Street, London EC1V 9HQ. Closing date: 10th April 1996

Royal Mail

Royal Mail is an Equal Opportunities Employer. Suitably qualified applicants with disabilities will be shortlisted.

POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S AND THE ROYAL LONDON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

Secretary

A secretary is required for the Wolfson Institute of Environmental and Preventative medicine, a busy department which is actively involved in research, with a special interest in screening. This is a varied role demanding initiative and flexibility to provide secretarial and administrative support to include the preparation of teaching timetables and materials.

You will have an excellent command of English and spelling, at least 3 years' secretarial experience and ideally have worked in an academic environment. In addition you should have excellent secretarial skills, be computer literate including the ability to use Word, WordPerfect 5 & 6 and Pagemaker and be able to prioritise a busy workload with minimum supervision.

The appointment will be for 2 years (with the possibility of renewal) with a salary in the range £14,029 - £15,904 pa inclusive depending on experience.

For an application form and further details please telephone our 24 hour Recruitment line on 0171-975-5171 quoting Reference 96540. Only completed application forms will be accepted and these should be returned by 15 April 1996 to the Assistant Personnel Officer (Recruitment), Queen Mary and Westfield College, Mile End Road, London E1 4NS.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON **WORKING TOWARDS EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

A multi-faculty college of the University of London engaged in teaching and research of international distinction

---

College to Career!
c£13,000 p.a.

Working as Sec/Asst for this lively PR team, you will need good organisational and keyboard skills to deal with events, press releases, presentations etc.

OR

Join a lively sports marketing company as a competent all-rounder with good French, knowledge of Audio and basic numeracy and WP.

JOYCE GUINESS PARTNERSHIP
0171 589 8807
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

MAYFAIR

Surveyors require Audio Secretary/ PA for small but busy office. Must have good speeds, be smart, and enjoy a friendly working atmosphere. W.4.W (V6) + if poss Access - Good Package.

Tel: 0171 409 2233

THE RITZ

EXECUTIVE P.A.
£22,000

Join the Divisional Director of this International Software Group as he services all clients in the area of tourism and retail. You will co-ordinate the division's output ensuring the highest quality client presentation material and secretarial support as well as providing full support to the Director. Powerpoint/Word and 55 wpm WP essential.

Contact Sara Springer
0171 629 4343
Ritz Rec Cons.

GRAPHICS OPERATOR
Circa £20K + Bonus

Established Management Consultants with luxurious West End offices require; knowledge of Claris presentation package (will x train), Excel & typing speed of 60wpm. Ability to work under pressure and enjoy being part of a young, energetic team.

Call Black & Whyte (Rec Cons) on 0171 831 9911 in confidence.

The Royal College of Radiologists
EDITORIAL ADMINISTRATOR
London up to £16,500

The Royal College of Radiologists is the professional and examining body for clinical radiologists and oncologists; each of its two faculties produces an academic journal. Its small secretariat requires an editorial administrator primarily for its Journal of Clinical Radiology.

Secretarial and administrative experience, plus organisational ability are required for this busy and varied post. Experience of the editorial function, of committee work and taking minutes, and a medical background would be relevant. You must be able to maintain attention to detail whilst working quickly and accurately under pressure, often for Officers who are based outside the College. This is a "hands on" post needing good word processing skills and an aptitude for computer use.

Depending on experience, salary will be up to £16,500 p.a. plus benefits.

Please send your full CV with a covering letter to:
The Administration Manager, The Royal College of Radiologists
38 Portland Place, London W1N 4JQ
Closing date: Wednesday 3 April for interviews on Thursday 11 April.

The bottom line is...

Join our temporary team and find out what you're missing!

Come and see us...

City 0171-390 7000 West End 0171-434 4512

Crone Corkill
Temporary Recruitment

CREME DE LA CREME

HIGH FLYER

£22,000 Package

A young dynamic team within an internationally renowned financial company is looking for a motivated secretary with a minimum of 3 years' secretarial experience.

In this exciting and highly pressurised environment, you will be encouraged to develop your DTP skills and be involved in the marketing of events. You will need a clear, confident manner and enjoy using your initiative. You must have strong organisational skills and fast, accurate typing, with a sound knowledge of W4W. Excel and Powerpoint.

Please call

Angela Mortimer

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcomed.

SPRING ASSIGNMENTS FOR TEMPORARY SECRETARIES

Up to £10 per hour plus overtime

Do you want to start this Spring working for **Blue Chip** organisations that can offer you **challenging** opportunities whilst earning the **highest** hourly rates giving your CV that competitive edge?

If you have professional secretarial qualifications, a typing speed of 55 wpm and a practical knowledge of computer packages such as **Word for Windows, Excel** and **Powerpoint**. we can offer you immediate short or long term assignments plus temp to perm opportunities.

Please call

Angela Mortimer

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcomed.

INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT

£27,000

A talented visionary MD of an international investment company is looking for a PA who has developed office management skills. This job requires an exceptional all rounder PA who can also supervise a team of support staff. is highly computer literate and is effective in all aspects of office administration.

He is looking for someone with excellent communication and people skills, upmarket presentation. an efficient problem solver whom he can rely upon to ensure that all things run smoothly in his absence. Financial/Banking background preferred. Skills 100 wpm shorthand, 60 wpm typing.

Please call

Angela Mortimer

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcomed.

NORTON Healthcare Harlow, Essex

Norton Healthcare is the leading manufacturer and supplier of generic medicines in the UK.

With the best people we can be the best company. Motivated, committed, achieving individuals are fundamental to our continued success.

We are now looking to further enhance the company by filling this key position, offering an attractive package.

If you are interested then please forward your Curriculum Vitae to:

Val Rudkin Top Flight Personnel
2 Adams House, Terminus Street
Harlow, Essex CM20 1BD

or telephone 01279 412771
no later than 4th April 1996

Personal Assistant

A vacancy has arisen within Shareholders Services for a bright hard working individual to work for our Chairman, as his Personal Assistant. In addition you will provide secretarial and administrative support for our International Marketing Director.

The successful candidate will be responsible for:

- Typing and composing correspondence
- Arrangement of travel itineraries and diary
- Attending to telephone calls and enquiries and re-routing to correct person
- Liaison with senior members of staff passing on information
- Ensure [illegible] briefing material is available for meetings [illegible]
- Maintain filing system and general office duties

Essential requirements for this key role are:

- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- At least five years' secretarial experience of working at senior management level
- Educated to 'A' level standard (or equivalent)
- Fast accurate typing
- Shorthand
- Computer literate [illegible] PowerPoint [illegible]
- Good telephone manner
- Ability to meet deadlines and work under pressure

We provide a smoke free working environment.

Executive Assistant
to the Chief Executive

Up to £21,924 pa inc

As Chief Executive of the Council, Sue Charteris leads the largest organisation in the Borough. An organisation which employs 5,000 people and provides a wide range of multi-disciplinary services to this south London community.

This is a very high profile role in supporting the Chief Executive as principal adviser to the Council and ultimate manager of all Council employees. Your discretion and ability to develop a collaborative working style which complements that of the Chief Executive is vital.

You will co-ordinate and supervise a team of secretarial support staff, liaise closely with Directors, Elected Members and unit support staff and initiate a number of administrative tasks.

Ability to produce high quality documents using Microsoft Office including Word 6, as well as speedwriting, shorthand or audio skills are essential requirements. Of paramount importance is your ability to communicate effectively with a diverse range of people, balance priorities, plan and devise a complex programme of activities on behalf of the Chief Executive and her team.

Further details and an application form are available from Business Support, Chief Executive's Department, Civic Centre, Morden, Surrey, SM4 5DX tel: 0181 545 4033 (24 hour answer service).

Please quote ref: CX017

Closing date: 15th April 1996

Priority consideration will be given to people with disabilities who are under-represented within the Council's workforce.

Jobshare applications welcome with or without a partner for full time posts except those indicated.

The Council operates a no smoking policy. It is a condition of appointment that new employees do not smoke at work.

merton
moving ahead

creating equal opportunities for all

Secretary — West End

c.£16.5k a.a.e. + Benefits

British Heart Foundation, the UK's leading heart research charity, urgently seeks a well organised secretary with fast, accurate WP and audio skills (60-70 wpm, WP5.1 and W4W6) to report directly to their Legal Adviser, providing outstanding secretarial and administrative support. Additionally, you will deputise as PA to the Director General.

Having three years' solid secretarial experience, tact and diplomacy will be vital in this role together with a flexible, cheerful, reliable and mature attitude and the ability to meet deadlines. You should have a confident telephone manner and communicate easily at all levels. Ideal applicants will be educated to GCSE or equivalent level (incl. English) with a formal secretarial qualification. No legal secretarial experience is required.

PPP, pension, life insurance, LVs etc. Quoting Ref: R166, current salary and notice period details, please send CV and covering letter immediately to: Melanie Glanville, British Heart Foundation, 14 Fitzhardinge Street, London, W1H 4DH. Closing date: 9th April 1996 Interviews: 18th April 1996.

STRICTLY NO AGENCIES

British Heart Foundation
The heart research charity

Registered Charity No 225971

Consultancy PA

Our client, a leading international computer company, is seeking an experienced Consultancy Secretary to provide top-level PA support to the Senior Partner within the Banking and Financial Services Division.

To meet the demands of this senior post, you will have a thorough understanding of consultancy procedures, be capable of multi-tasking and have the confidence and ability to remain calm and professional in a pressurised environment.

We offer an excellent salary and benefits package, plus full training and on-going support. Telephone Joyce Lee on 0171 202 5414 to arrange an interview.
Fax. 0171 202 5904.

Previous applicants should not re-apply.

MANPOWER
There's more for you

career moves

TREASURY PA/SEC MUSIC £20,000

If you are a snr/PA Sec with a treasury/ corporate b/ground and want to work in a happening Record Co then this busy job could be for you. Giving full sec back up you'll be liasing at snr levels and getting involved.

PUBLIC RELATIONS PA/SEC £17,000

Total involvement for committed media PA who wants to be a pivotal member of a new business team. Get involved with research, organising events etc. Min 3 yrs sec exp.

MUSIC + ARTS TV PA/SEC £15,000

Offered as a 1 yr contract for confident, proactive graduate sec with a min of 1 yrs sec exp. Must be totally organised and PC literate.

124 Great Portland Street, London W1N 5PF
Tel: 0171 636 6411, Fax: 0171 636 2457

P/A Secretary

To work for the Managing Partner of a small group of businesses including schools; property and agricultural estate; golf course; related work. First class skills including shorthand 100+. Friendly offices in London NW3, close to the tube. Salary appropriate to the skills required. Applications in writing with CV to The Private Office, 2 Arkwright Road, London NW3 6AD.

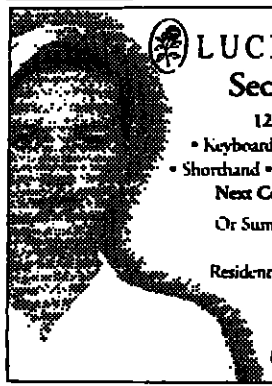
CORPORATE PROPERTY LIMITED

Require an experienced secretary for a busy professional team based in SW1. The ideal candidate would be confident, well-presented and have the ability to deal with an occasionally heavy workload. Quality systems are used extensively, and experience in this field would be an advantage. The salary would reflect the challenges of the position and would be up to £20,000 plus bonus. A full benefits package is also provided.

Please send CV and covering letter to: Box No 4704

PA/Admin/Financial • salary neg

Self motivated and flexible person required for this varied role in a search and selection company in Holborn. Basic accounting. VAT returns and PAYE. Good communication skills and telephone manner. Excellent organisational skills and typing are a must.
Send CV and salary details to:
Ms S Hicks. Gemini Executive Ltd
24-28 Bloomsbury Way. London WC1A 2SL



LUCIE CLAYTON
Secretarial College

12 Week Intensive Course in:
• Keyboard • Computer Training • WP
• Shorthand • Modern Business Etiquette.
Next Course Starts 16 April 1996.

Or Summer 2 & 4 week courses in:
• Keyboard • Computing.
Residential accommodation available.

4 Cornwall Gardens.
London SW7 4AJ
0171 581 0024

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

£25,000 ++ EXC BENEFITS + BONUS. High profile role. Plush offices. Banking background ess. Fluent English / Spanish / German / French Good S / H / Audio skills. Word 6.0

TEMPORARY SECRETARIES

Variety of City - based assignments
Typing 60 wpm / confident wp skills
Please call to arrange an appointment

ECCO
Tel: 0171 920 0866
ECCO Employment
4 Moorfields, EC2
Fax: 0171 638 3567

GRADUATE / PA TO GLOBAL HEAD
£24,000 Neg + Bank Bens

Move into the City and enhance your career. You'll be PC literate (W4W, Lotus 1-2-3 and Harvard Graphics) with a strong marketing flair, organisational skills and a 2:1 Degree. You'll handle presentations, liaise with Global clients, make travel arrangements and maintain a diary. Stimulating investment environment. No shorthand.

Contact Birchs Consultancy
Tel: 0171 588 5752 Fax: 0171 256 5501
Wamford Court, 29 Throgmorton St, EC2N 2AT

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

BILINGUAL Italian Accts Administrator (+ other Euro lang) for Int'l Coms. UK VAT exp. + Bkkpg to T/B ess. £18 - 20k. Language Recruitment Services 0171 287 0424

DUTCH SPEAKING PA - Involved senior position to work for Gen Manager of prestigious financial instit. Imm start. Regular hours. To £21k + banking bens. Appointments Bi-Language. Tel 0171 365 1975 Fax 0171 499 0568

DUTCH speaking PA req. for MD of Multi-national bank. W4W. WP5.2. c£20.000 + full banking benefits. Merrow Emp 0171 499 3939 Fax: 0171 409 2859

ENGLISH/Italian PA/Sec. £18.000 small successful Intl. Trading Co. NW3 Age 23-32yrs 0181 209 1858 Agy.

EXPORT ADMIN £18k International company seeks Export Administrators with strong Export/Customer Services exp. You will have fluent French or Spanish and be available immediately. Please call Bilingual People urgently on 0171-287 1688 or fax CVs to 0171-287 1606.

TENERIFE PA req. for Financial Director of British property co. Fluent Spanish experience & drivers licence essential. £ competitive. Merrow Emp. 0171 499 3939 Fax: 0171 409 2859

FRENCH/Italian translating into English. £16k LS AGY 0181 466 8922

PARIS: Bilingual Secretaries. English mother tongue, fluent French & 50 wpm urgently reqd for International co's - financial, legal and advertising fields. 120-180KF. London interviews this week or next. Sheila Burgess International. Specialists in Bilingual Secretarial Recruitment in Paris. Call 0171-584 6446 or fax Paris (1) 44 63 02 59.

HOLBORN SOLICITORS
require German speaking Litigation Secretary for busy Partner. Experience of Wordperfect essential preferably 6.1 plus good organisational skills. Good salary

Apply with CV to:
Mr. S. Pounds,
1 Bedford Row,
London WC1R 4BZ

NO AGENCIES

PARIS

Fluent French for a variety of secretarial roles 170-200KF

LONDON

Chinese mandarin for senior IT & various admin roles 14-35K
German speakers for variety of roles in Int'l finance, based in Surrey and Kent, 11-18K
German speaking sec, trading floor, temp to perm to 20K
German speaker, your chance to start in Personnel c14K
French speaking PA in Banking. Powerpoint essential c20K+
French Import/Export, int'l luxury FMCG, 20K
French/Spanish music lover for co-ordination role 11K
Italian & German/French trilingual customer services, 12.5K
Portuguese speakers: retail/buying experience 11-15K
Project Manager for translation company c.20+pckg

For these and many other opportunities, please contact Heike Tobin or Mary lou Hayes

A division of Graduate Appointments.

LINK LANGUAGE *appointments*
Tel: 0171 379 0333
Fax: 0171 379 0113
7a Langley Street London WC2H 9JA

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

FRENCH/SPANISH trilingual PA/Sec (Eng. m/t std ess.) for prestigious Marketing Co. £16.5k + Bens. 0171 287 0424 Language Recruitment Services

PARIS - CR interim temporary services has many temporary and permanent positions in Paris for bilingual secretaries. Fluent French essential. good salaries - ff 11.000 - ff 16.000 per month. When in Paris come in and see us. 12 Rue de la Paix, 75002 Paris Tel: 00 331 (42611616).

West London Linguist?

Executive Secretary to Director
- £18-£20,000:
Team Secretary
- £15-£18,000.

TWO fantastic vacancies working for a rapidly expanding company in their International division for candidates with fluency in French, German or Spanish. If you are switched-on, dynamic & forward-thinking with solid secretarial skills on MS Office and have shorthand, then this would be an ideal company for you. Please call Fiona Kerr on 0171-434 4512.

Crone Corkill
Multilingual Recruitment

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

FRENCH speaking PA req. for Director of large Engineering Group. WordPerfect 5.2. £17.500 Merrow Emp. 0171 499 3939 Fax: 0171 409 2859

HIGH Profile Dutch £21.000 + Exc Bens. Excellent opportunity for an executive level PA/SEC with fluent Dutch to work for a very prestigious bank. This is a very challenging and busy role and must be used to working under pressure You will be well presented. have excellent secretarial and organisational skills. Please call Bilingual People urgently on 0171-287 1688 or fax CVs to 0171-287 1606.

RUSTY RUSSIAN? ADMIN /SEC /RECEPTIONIST
c£16,000 aae
For London based Intl Financial Advisory Co. English to m/t standard with knowledge of Russian. Good keyboard skills + W4W. Recent college leavers considered. Age to 40.
Tel: 0171 379 3189
The Language Business (Rec Cons)

SUPER SECRETARIES

ADMIN/Sec £16.500 for Mayfair Property Co. Exc. prospects for the ambitious W4W/Excel. 23-32yrs. 0181 209 1858 Agy.

AD AGENCY urgently requires lively creative + diligent secretary to work on major accounts. No media exp. nec. 66wpm + W4W ess. To £15k. Mainstream (Agy) 0171 495 1830.

ADMINISTRATOR £16k + Excellent benefits. Temp to Perm. Very busy. dynamic city based company seek an administrator with good all round skills and plenty of initiative. Varied duties to include all personnel functions. facilities management. insurance documentation and much, much more. An excellent stepping stone to future management. Skills required are 50wpm min. Typing and spreadsheet package. An exciting role for a person with a high level of self-confidence. great SOH and good interpersonal skills. This a very varied role and not one for the faint hearted. Ring Anna/Miles Meridian Rec.Cons 0171 600 1331

D S A
DSA BILINGUAL LTD

FRENCH/SPANISH £17,400
PA with fluent French and Spanish to work for Vice President of West-end drinks company. Must be able to work on own initiative. Wordperfect 5.1, Lotus 1-2-3.

GERMAN £19,000+
Secretary to Marketing Manager of this American, City based finance company. At least 5 years experience, ideally in finance. Must be able to hold the fort when boss is abroad. Computer literacy essential.

[illegible]

Euro London Appointments

SECRETARY
Fluent German
Up to £25,000 + Pkg

Our client, a leading City institution, now urgently seeks a Senior Secretary to work at Director level. The ideal applicant will thrive in an extremely busy team environment, possess exc. communication (Eng and Germ) and organisational skills together with a sound background in either Finance or Law and the flexibility to cope at being the focal point for the whole dept.

1 Hare Place, 47 Fleet Street, London, EC4Y 1BJ
Tel: 0171 583 0180 Fax: 0171 353 9849

GERMAN CAREER PA £20k + bank bens
German billing PA/snr sec (Eng MT ess) MD of intl bank. Bus role req born organiser to get involved in projects and research. Must be able to work independently. Ltd typing and sec work. Min 2 yrs exp. Prev banking exp & Excel/Pow'point pref. 23+

FRENCH OPPORTUNITY £20k + bank bens
French billing PA/Sec (Eng MT) req to assist high profile French finance Exec who travels between London & Paris. Challenging role combining sec duties + admin/travel org + extensive liaison with Paris office. Excel/Pow'point pref. 23+

FRENCH DESIGNS £17.5k + bank bens
Billing French sec to work for Dir of large design co. Varied role req initiative + involvement. Excl sec skills & ability to work under pressure ess. 22 +

PS.. DUTCH/FRENCH/SCANDI Customer service reps for intl co. Mac exp pref. £excl... Long term temps with French/German or Italian urgently sought for city co's £excl... and many more

LANGUAGE MATTERS AGENCY
0171 930 1811

SUPER SECRETARIES

A great opportunity to provide sec/admin support to young. fun team within well-known prop co based in beautiful St. Johns Wood (2 mins from tube). Be totally involved. and be able to use initiative as position requires a flexible approach and sense of humour! Wordperfect/Windows pref. min 56wpm with 2 yrs exp. To £14.000 aae. Call The People Business for immed interview on 0171 344 9113 or fax 0171 629 3494 (Agy).

A PA to MD/Opps Director. £18.000+bonus/bens/prking. Major US software HS. Wembley. W4W/Excel/Graphics. 0181 209 1858 Agy.

AUDIO Secretary receptionist friendly firm of Chartered Surveyors based in WC1, word perfect 5.1 experience plus audio 55 + essential. good telephone manner. Contact Meena 0171 436 2101

CHELSEA based High Profile Property Buying Service requires PA/Sec/Negotiator to assist Mng Director. Finest Country Properties & London Res + Computer Exp an advantage. Min Salary + Max Commission. Tel: 0171 351 2625 Fax CV: 0171 351 1613.

COLLEGE/ School leaver. 30 wpm. for small friendly head hunting Co near Victoria. Super 1st job to gain office exp. (Any German language useful but not essen). Age 18+. £13.500. King & Toben Recruitment. tel 0171-629 9648. fax 0171-408 0579.

CUT the commute. International and newly merged company nr Chiswick need two Executive Secretaries to support busy main board Directors. You'll need to be a confident self starter with shorthand. MS W4W + some spreadsheet and presentation exp. Languages are helpful as is large company experience. Gym and free parking - Salaries to £23000. So if you're tired of commuting phone King & Toben Recruitment 0171-629-9648

DIRECTORS ASSISTANT - £20.000. Develop this one to to one role within this small. high profile consultancy. You will support the director in setting up a new division. Quite high typing content. daily admin and client liaison. Typing 55wpm. MS Word for Windows. Excel. Please call 0171 628 9829 Elizabeth Hunt Rec Cons.

EVENING LEGAL SECRETARY required by City law firm to work from 6pm to 12.30am. Word for Windows. 65 wpm typing and legal experience essential. Start 1st April. salary £20.000. Please telephone Kim Harris on 0171 377 9919 for an immediate interview. Hobstones Recruitment Consultants.

HAMPSTEAD: Private secretary with excellent skills including 100wpm shorthand fast typing required for entrepreneur. assisting with business and personal matters in this truly involved role. AAE. 20-30yrs. Call Emma on 0171 437 6032 Hobs Rec Cons

KING & TOBEN Recruitment Consultants are seeking a real 'go-getter' to run their already flourishing temp division and build upon it. you will need to be highly motivated + dedicated to success. Expected salary package £18-20.000. Age up to 36. Tel 0171-629 9648, Fax 0171-408 0579.

OFFICE Administrator/PA £20.000. This successful City firm are seeking an office administrator/PA to run their small office. You will have full involvement handling personal work. organising meetings, all offic administration. in a busy and pressurised environment. 55wpm typing. Word for Windows and working knowledge of Excel. Age: 35-40. Please call 0171 628 9526 Elizabeth Hunt Rec Cons.

PA Director of Advertising Selection arm International company SW1. Extensive liaison clients. Articulate. well spoken with fast typing/ audio.£16/17,000. Ring Mitchell Young Rec Cons 0171 588 3055.

PA in TV. Use your exc sh/typ to organise Snr VP. Liaise with producers/animators. org screenings. Proven exp in media essential. Langs & Mac exp h'ful. 6mth contract. £17-£17.5 pro rata. Call The People Business on 0171 344 9113 or Fax 0171 629 3494 (Agy).

£17,000 Secretary for a busy TV Communications Co. in W1. Dealing with personnel. staff training, meetings, diaries & travel. You are energetic & have Windows experience. Call 0171 493 7001 SECRETARIES PLUS Rec. Cons.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT £18-£20k (max). A smart property based co. based in the West End seek a confident. well presented and outgoing PA to work with 2 dynamic professionals. The ideal candidate will have experience of spreadsheets. be self-motivated and have the ability to work in a hectic environment offering plenty of autonomy. Ring Anna/Miles Meridian Rec. Cons 0171 600 1331

PERSONAL ASSISTANT /Accountant £20.000 + Bonus. Mature person with good knowledge of accounting & good knowlege of accounting & with some French conversation (advantage) to assist Hotelier/Developer at his private home in W1. Call Amanda 0171 408 0300 Quatro (Agy)

SECOND JOBBER Secretary Exclusive designer womenswear company requires fast efficient secretary to join admin team. Excellent computer skills (Lotus 123 and WordPerfect for Windows) for fashion and press events together with calm unflappable telephone manner for busy switchboard. Please apply in writing to: The Personnel Officer. 80 Fulham Road. London SW3 6HR

SECRETARY Required for principal of busy accountancy practice at Fulham Broadway. Audio with Word for Windows 6. Excellent secretarial and administrative skills and accuracy essential. Salary to £17.500 + pension. Send CV to Stella Bright. Argon House. Argon Mews. Fulham Broadway. SW6 1JB. No agencies.

£19,000 Snr. Secretary required for this busy expanding Investment Co. in W1. You must be able to liaise at all levels. be resourceful and have good organisational skills together with exp in a Legal or Co. Secretary environment. Excellent WP skills & Shorthand req. Immediate start. Call 0171 493 7001 SECRETARIES PLUS Rec. Cons.

ST JOHNS WOOD to £20,000 + free parking. Executive PA sought by top of the market motor dealers. Confident. organised senior secretary with some knowledge of personnel would enjoy a busy varied role with scope for development. 90/60 skills + windows experience essential. Age 28-35ish. Please call 0171 637 3212 Summers By Two Rec Cons.

TEMPTING TIMES

AVAILABLE? - Demand is hotting up! Several L/T assignments (poss temp-Perm) immediately available + many other interesting positions. If you have confident PC skills (MS W4W pref) and want to feel really appreciated, then call now! 0171 385 5036 Sue Cooke Recruitment.

RICH PICKINGS is finding a rewarding, well paid temp job, like finding a needle in a haystack? Do you want to earn up to £10 per hour and take your pick from a crop of temp assignments ranging from International Investment banks to corporate PR agencies. If you have 55wpm and solid experience using two or more current word processing packages, then please call Carmel. William, or Robyn on 0171 814 0800 (Angela Mortimer - Rec Cons)

URGENT - Ex. rate for immediate start. Temp/perm sec required for prestigious W.E. prop. Co. Super team. Good audio/W.P. skills ess. Call Venture Plus Personnel 0171 493 5122.

FIRST CREME

EDITORIAL Assistant £12,500 S.W.7. Intelligent 'juggler' needed to assist the operations team of an educational publishing co. You're a pro-active allrounder with an eye for detail and you enjoy a lively team atmosphere. Computer literacy essential. JIGSAW REC 0171 373 7779

HAMMERSMITH c £13.000. Hi-tech American co. needs a professional, well-organised secretary/receptionist to become an important part of their friendly team. Essential: pride in your work, accurate typing and attention to detail. JIGSAW RECRUITMENT 0171 373 7779

RECEPTION SELECTION

NEW HORIZONS IN SW1
£17,000 + SUPER PERKS
Company Secretary needs meticulous organiser for a 75% admin position. Temp to Perm. 55 wpm plus WP4W. Age 25-35.
Norma Skemp Rec 0171 222 5091

CHELSEA HARBOUR
£16,000+
Dynamic International co. required immaculate, well spoken receptionist with typing skills, 55 wpm. Age 22-35. Free parking plus 25 days hols
Norma Skemp Rec 0171 222 5091

RECEPTION SELECTION

£18,000 pkg. Exclusive West End restaurant/ club require a social hostess. The position will suit an immaculate. confident, outgoing and friendly person. Image will be important. Fabulous working environment. Please fax CV's 0171 734 4908. Sarah Stewart-Smith Rec. tel 0171 734 8955.

RECEPTIONIST Up to £14k Temp to Perm. Dynamic. city based company seek a well spoken and outgoing person to cover their busy reception area. Preferably with experience of Meridian switchboard and basic typing. Lots of 'meet and greet'. Immediate start. Ring Anna/Miles Meridian Rec Cons 0171 600 1331

YOUNG, vibrant receptionists are required for the WestEnd. Knightsbridge and Sloane Sq. areas. Ideally you will be in your early to mid 20's and will have had a minimum of 2 years' exp. in the professional sectors. Salaries on offer are from £15k - £16k. If you fit the above criteria contact Eutopia Rec. on 0171 439 6288 or fax your CV to 0171 734 6800.

£13,000+ Polished receptionist req. for exclusive Bond St. Int. Co. Impeccable telephone manner coupled with VDU experience & flexibility are essential. Exciting, busy atmosphere that requires a professional attitude. Call 0171 493 7001 SECRETARIES PLUS Rec. Cons.

BANKING & LEGAL LA CREME

A Commercial Conveyancing secretary to Dynamic Partner. £19.000 Top W1 firm. Call 0181 209 1858 Agy.

LEGAL
£18-23,000
For the best choice of Legal secretarial posts in London, call McKinlay Law Partnership
0171 930 6060
(Rec Cons)

BANKING & LEGAL LA CREME

LEGAL SECRETARY CITY

Successful American corporate law firm require a positive and pro-active secretary to work in their office close to St. paul's.

The successful candidate will have a good academic background and at least 2 years experience in a similar position. Fast and accurate secretarial skills are required together with a good working knowledge of Word Perfect 6.1 for Windows.

This position requires flexibility as paid overtime is required at relatively short notice and some weekend working may be required.

An excellent salary and benefits package is offered.

Please apply in writing with full CV to:

Mrs L Felmingham, Debevoise & Plimpton
1 Creed Court, 5 Ludgate Hill
London EC4M 7AA. (No Agencies)

LEGAL SECRETARIES

Earn up to £11ph + Overtime

We are currently recruiting temporary legal secretaries to accommodate an increasingly bullish Legal environment. Our clients range from trans global 150+ partner law firms to the smaller private client firm based solely in London, whatever the size their requirements never change. Excellent typing skills of 60wpm+, an all round knowledge of the law or one particular area of expertise coupled with a professional outlook will ensure success. An assured knowledge of a mainstream word processing package such as W4WV.6. WP5.1 or WP4W is essential. We are able to offer a variety of temping assignments whether ongoing, contract or temp-perm which could last through to Autumn 1996.

For an immediate appointment call Rachel or Luke on

Angela Mortimer

0171 600 0286

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcomed.

MEDICAL SECRETARIES

MEDICAL SECRETARIES
URGENTLY REQUIRED....
FOR LONG & SHORT -TERM TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS.
EXPERIENCE ESSENTIAL
EXCELLENT RATES!!
TEL: STEPHANIE 0171 499 7747.
REC CONS
Lifeline
A Helping Hand in Recruitment

COLLEGE TO CAREER

EXECUTIVE Search to £16000 W.1 Major Int'l firm of 'head-hunters' need a quick-witted, nimble-fingured junior secretary. Great opportunity to put your secretarial training into practice! 48wpm audio typing. Call *JIGSAW RECRUITMENT* 0171 373 7779.

MEDIA CREME

PUBLISHING - Superb opp for bright, outgoing person: advertising & training depts - top int'l publishers. Busy, involved role - real prospects. Suit young grad/college leaver. (20-25 yrs) To £12.000 aae. Appointments Bi- Language. Tel 0171 365 1975 Fax 0171 499 0568

NON-SECRETARIAL

£25,000 + Bonus. Office Manager wanted for small but successful family run specialised advertising business. You need to be a dedicated hardworking person who can totally take away the administrative responsibilities of the Directors and take responsibility for contracts, liaise with printer, clients & handle after care requirements with clients (legal exp useful). You will be able to set up systems & work on your own initiative. Maine-Tucker. 0171 734 7341.

HOUSEHOLD Agency need a lateral thinker to run busy and thriving temp desk. Must be well spoken and used to working under lots of pressure Friendly office. Up to £18.000 p.a. T.J. & Co. 0171 838 0023.

LETTINGS & SALES NEGOTIATORS

PROPERTY Negotiator. Due to expansion Foxtons wish to appoint a top flight sales negotiator to work in what is probably London's busiest property sales environment. Ideally aged 23-27. Must live in Central London and have a clean driving licence. Proven sales record but not necessarily in estate agency. Above all must be ambitious and materialistically motivated. Salary, plus comm. plus car. Tel 0171 221 2000

PART TIME VACANCIES

LETTINGS & SALES NEGOTIATORS

FULHAM estate agent req a sales negotiator 25/35 with energy. drive & determination to succeed. Exp prefered. Excl salary + comm + generous car allowance. *Fax your CV to Harrington Lowndes* 0171 731 1104

TRAINEE Property Negotiator. Foxtons, one of London's most progressive estate agents wish to recruit a trainee negotiator. Ideally aged 20-24. The successful applicant will be intelligent. have an abundance of energy. enthusiasm and a desire to become one of Central London's most successful property negotiators. Initial sal. £12K during training + car. Must live in Central London. 0171 221 2000.

SW1, Rentals Negotiator required. experienced SW1 preferred. for further details send CV to PDV. Dauntons. 8 Denbigh Street. SW1V 2ER or fax 0171 828 1611.

MEDICAL SECRETARIES

ASST. MEDICAL SECRETARY
PART TIME -
5HRS DAY - £8,000
Must be fast and accurate
Private Cardiac Practice
St. John's Wood
Tel: 0171-624 7952

PART TIME VACANCIES

INTERVIEW babysitters for leading babysitting agency. An extra income for a home based person in the Maidenhead area. Personnel Recruitment 0171 935 8247.

RECEPTIONIST (mornings) for head office of well known company in SW1. We are looking for someone bright . friendly and well-groomed with a good telephone manner. helpful approach and some WP experience. Hours 8.30 am-1.30pm. Salary circa £8,000. Please call Jacqui Woodhams on 0171 930 6266

PART-TIME SECRETARY
required for smart Mayfair solicitors. 20 flexible hours per week. Litigation experience essential. Knowledge of WordPerfect 5.2 an advantage.
Salary £10 per hour a.a.e.
Please write with CV to: Joseph Hyde & Co
74 South Audley St. London W1Y 6LH
(no agencies)

MEDIA CREME

MEDIA SECRETARIES

Advertising
Marketing
Sales
Promotion
P.R.
Publishing
T.V.
Film

MEDIAD
MEDIA AND ADVERTISING

JOIN THE TEAM
£16K

Our client, a well-known and successful Design Consultancy, is looking for an enthusiastic and lively person to join a young, fun team. You will need to show excellent organisational and communication skills and be able to turn your hand to a multitude of tasks. If you are looking for a role which will offer responsibility and involvement and have 2 years secretarial experience, including knowledge of W4W and excellent typing then please call Miranda Newbolt and Crispin Swayne.

We are currently handling a large range of temporary assignments from P.A. to reception in all areas of the Media. If you are looking for long or short term bookings and enjoy working in a variety of different environments then we can help you. Previous secretarial or reception experience, typing of 60 wpm and computer literacy in up-to-date packages will quickly secure you temp work. Please call Laura Stanley and Emma Wilkinson on

0171 494 0445

هكذا من الأصل

Scotland mark McCoist milestone

McAllister hungry to make amends against Australia

By Kevin McCarra

GARY McALLISTER was munching on chocolate chip cookies in his hotel room as the Scotland football squad whiled away the time before the international with Australia at Hampden Park tonight. Finding a sweet taste in his mouth was probably a relief after the Coca-Cola Cup final on Sunday, in which Aston Villa shamed his Leeds United team while beating them 3-0.

The biscuits were being fed to him by Ally McCoist, who will, purely for this evening, relieve him of the Scotland captaincy. The honour marks the occasion of McCoist's fiftieth cap, although McAllister joked that only the bribe of cookies persuaded him to agree to it. In other respects, McAllister has no intention of standing aside.

"From a selfish viewpoint, I am not suffering as much as the rest of the team because I am out of Leeds," he said. "I am with a fresh group so there is not much cause to mope. We fancied our chances on Sunday, even though Villa were favourites, but we did not play at all.

"However, I have never been one to look back, on success or failure. There are no mental scars. With Leeds, I want us to play well and end the season in style. With Scotland, in the European championship finals, there is plenty to look forward to."

In a squad reduced by the withdrawal of five players, McAllister constitutes a point of continuity. McCoist, too, is experienced, but, while the fiftieth appearance will see his portrait hung in the Scottish Football Association's hall of fame, he must take care that the milestone does not also prove a headstone.

At 33, he can no longer be certain of a place in the Rangers team, and his international career could face its demise if his performance against Australia is unconvincing. He will be assisted in his work tonight by John Spencer, now with Chelsea but once a colleague at Ibrox.

Although Craig Brown, the Scotland manager, suggested that there would be a rapport between the two men, Spencer was unsure of its basis. "I think the understanding must be off the pitch," he said. "Being in the reserves with Rangers, I was more of a fan of McCoist than a team-mate. I cleaned that mug's boots ten years ago and now he's leading me out for Scotland."

Spencer is appreciative, but not awe-struck. Brown has attempted to piece together a worldly team. With so many absentees, he cannot field the side that he will hope to deploy in the European championship in England this summer, but the players whom he has chosen are still well-versed in international football.

John Collins keeps his place despite losing form and being dropped by Celtic as speculation increases that he could soon be sold to Everton. Brown is convinced that Collins, a midfield player, the only person to have played in all ten of Scotland's Euro 96 qualifiers, remains dependable in this context. "You would put money on him performing for us," Brown said.

There are, by contrast, no guarantees at all where another Celtic player is concerned. With Colin Calderwood, of Tottenham Hotspur, and Alan McLaren, of Rangers, missing, Brian O'Neil makes his debut against Australia. O'Neil, 23, a central defender, suffered a serious knee injury last May.

He is still completing his recovery and, with full fitness and form yet to be found, Celtic have not played him in the past two weeks. O'Neil, however, has the rare talent, for a Scot, of building play from the back and his sheer suitability for international football has persuaded Brown to select him.

The greater demands, however, lie on other shoulders this evening and McAllister, in particular, will have every incentive to smite shots on target. The Australia goalkeeper is Mark Bosnich, of Aston Villa.

SCOTLAND (4-4-2): J Leighton (Hibernian) — C Burley (Chelsea), C Hendry (Blackburn Rovers), B O'Neil (Celtic), T Boyd (Celtic) — W McKinlay (Blackburn Rovers), P McStay (Celtic), G McAllister (Leeds United), J Collins (Celtic) — A McCoist (Rangers), J Spencer (Chelsea)

Hamilton happy to have options at last

By Russell Kempson

THE countdown to each international football championship qualifying campaign brings brave talk and optimism in abundance. For Bryan Hamilton, the Northern Ireland manager, there is genuine reason to look on the brighter side of life — at last.

Northern Ireland open a series of three international matches, which also includes Sweden and Germany, when they play Norway at Windsor Park tonight. It is a testing programme before they begin their 1998 World Cup qualifiers against Ukraine, also in Belfast, on August 31.

"Everything is now geared towards the World Cup and the game with Norway gives us the chance of making a strong start," Hamilton said yesterday. "I don't have a hundred players to choose from, but I now have options. There are no automatic choices any more, which has got to be a good thing.

"We are developing and progressing all the time, the younger players are coming through and the spirit is excellent. Everybody will get a chance over the three matches to show what they can do, and I think that even the supporters are now beginning to believe in us and expect us to do something."

Alan McDonald, 32, the Northern Ireland captain, echoed the sentiments. "The squad has matured remarkably and I can see us making an impact," he said, on the eve of his 52nd cap. "I still want to be part of the set-up and, hopefully, I will be."

The path to the 1998 finals in France is fraught with danger — they also have to play Germany, Portugal, Armenia and Albania in group nine — but they remain buoyant after their display in the final European championship qualifier, against Austria in November, which they won 5-3.

"That result really bolstered our confidence," Hamilton said. "Everyone is determined to continue where they left off and maintain an improving standard."

Hamilton makes two changes from the side that defeated Austria, with McDonald returning to replace Barry Hunter and Gerard McMahon likely to take over from Phil Gray. Hunter and Gray are injured.

NORTHERN IRELAND (probable): A Fettis (Nottingham Forest); S Lomas (Manchester City), A McDonald (Queens Park Rangers), C Hill (Leicester City), N Worthington (Leeds United), M O'Neill (Hibernian), N Lennon (Leicester City), K Gillespie (Newcastle United), M Hughes (West Ham United), G McMahon (Tottenham Hotspur), I Dowie (West Ham United) Substitutes: to be announced

Given, right, receives the benefit of Pat Bonner's experience. Photograph: Tom Horan

McCarthy makes his mark

From Peter Ball in Dublin

MICK McCARTHY'S career as Ireland football manager began yesterday as Jack Charlton's had ended — in a Dublin bar. There, the similarities ended. Charlton said his farewells in the plush surroundings of his own pub in the city centre; McCarthy announced his team for the match against Russia at Lansdowne Road this evening in the snug of McDowell's, in the workaday suburb of *Inchicore*.

McCarthy held his press conference there after being forced to move training from a saturated Lansdowne Road. Instead, the players trained in the more basic surroundings of Richmond Park, the home of St Patrick's Athletic, the League of Ireland leaders, beside the banks of the River Camac.

Even the training showed that a new era was underway. Paul McGrath, back on the ground where he began his career, put in a full morning, and the training itself included games of "keep ball" and an emphasis on passing, a radical departure from the Charlton approach.

The team, too, is revolutionary. McCarthy is following the season's trend in England and employing a three-man central defence, with McAteer and Phelan employed in their club positions as wing backs. McGrath and Staunton, who have played in the system for Aston Villa, will be joined, at the heart of the defence, by Alan Kernaghan in the absence of Phil Babb.

Not all the changes are enforced. Shay Given, the richly-promising Blackburn Rovers goalkeeper, gets a first cap after starting the week in the under-21 squad. There is also a fourth cap for Mark Kennedy, like Given, 19, who was moved up from the under-21 squad only yesterday.

With Oleg Romantsev, the Russia coach, able to call on all his overseas players, it promises to be a fascinating experiment, and one that has caught the imagination of the Irish public — 45,000 tickets had been sold yesterday. However, although the passing of Nikiforov and Onopka and the pace of Kanchelskis and Tsimbalar will provide attractive opposition, most interest is centred on McCarthy's start.

With Keane and Townsend giving solid purpose to midfield, and a system geared to the talents available, there is optimism that a new beginning is underway. The selection of Given was almost inevitable once Alan Kelly dropped out. The choice of Kennedy was more surprising. "He's playing in midfield, but he's expected to get involved with the front two," McCarthy said. "His role is to get on the ball and be creative, a bit like Steve McManaman at Liverpool."

The vote of confidence comes at a good time for Kennedy. He won his three caps in the autumn playing wide on the left, but his only start for Liverpool this season was in December. "I'm frustrated at Liverpool but realistic," Kennedy said. "This is a big chance for me. I want to do well for Mick and for Ireland, but it is just as important that Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, is coming to watch the game."

TEAMS

IRELAND (3-4-1-2): S Given (Sunderland) — P McGrath (Aston Villa), A Kernaghan (Manchester City), S Staunton (Aston Villa) — J McAteer (Liverpool), R Keane (Manchester United), A Townsend (Aston Villa), T Phelan (Chelsea) — M Kennedy (Liverpool) — J Aldridge (Tranmere Rovers), N Quinn (Manchester City).

RUSSIA (probable): D Kharine (Chelsea) — Y Kovtuun (Dynamo Moscow), O Tetradze (Spartak Vladkavkaz), Y Nikiforov (Spartak Moscow), V Onopka (Real Oviedo), I Tsimbalar (Spartak Moscow), A Kanchelskis (Everton), V Karpin (Real Sociedad), I Simutenkov (Reggiana), D Radchenko (Deportivo La Coruña), I Kolyvanov (Foggia)

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket*

International matches
England v Bulgaria
(at Wembley, 8.0)
Northern Ireland v Norway
(at Windsor Park, Belfast)
Ireland v Russia
(at Lansdowne Road, Dublin)
Scotland v Australia
(at Hampden Park, 8.0)

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
Portsmouth v Port Vale (7.45)

Third division
Hereford v Lincoln

Vauxhall Conference
Gateshead v Altrincham (7.45)

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Newport AFC v Ilkeston (7.45); Baldock v Cambridge City Midland division: Solihull v Paget Rangers Southern division: Poole v Yate (7.45).

ICIS LEAGUE (all 7.45): Second division: Collier Row v Hemel Hempstead Third division: Harlow v Clapton; Lewes v Aveley; Wealdstone v Camberley

UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Bradford Park Avenue v Lincoln United League Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Boston United v Leek

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Bristol Rovers v Watford; Charlton v Ipswich (7.0); Oxford Utd v Norwich, Southampton v Luton (at Marchwood FC); Swindon v Millwall (2.0); Tottenham v Brighton (at St Albans FC); Crystal Palace v Arsenal (at Dulwich Hamlet FC, 7.0) Second division: Bath v Cardiff; Bournemouth v Cheltenham.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division (7.0): Nottingham Forest v Derby County; Oldham v Blackburn, Tranmere v Notts County, West Bromwich v Sheffield Wednesday Second division: Barnsley v Aston Villa (7.0), Burnley v Mansfield (7.15); Huddersfield v Blackpool (7.0); Hull v York (7.0), Preston v Sunderland (7.0), Rotherham v Leicester (7.0)

LEAGUE OF WALES: Porthmadog v Llansantffraid (7.45) Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Caernarfon v Connah's Quay (7.45)

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Hallam v Goole President's Cup: Semi-final: Denaby v Brigg Town. League Cup: Semi-final, second leg: Ashfield v Belper Town

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Bedlington Terriers v RTM Newcastle; Shildon v Crook; Stockton v Durham, Whickham v Whitby

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Penrith v Clitheroe

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Fakenham v Felixstowe; Soham v Halstead, Sudbury Res v Watton, Sudbury v Cornard

FA YOUTH CUP: Semi-final, first-leg: Liverpool v Crystal Palace

RUGBY UNION

Club match
Moseley v RAF (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser All-Star Game: North v South (Granby Halls, Leicester, 8.0)

GOLF: Sunningdale Foursomes (Sunningdale)

HOCKEY: Women's international: Great Britain v France (Bisham Abbey, 3.0) Representative match: England XI v Combined Universities (at Milton Keynes, 2.30).

SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Irish Masters (Goffs Complex, Kildare).

SPEEDWAY: East Midlands Bowl, second leg: Long Eaton (40) v Coventry (55) Challenge: Hull v Sheffield (7.30)

IF YOU ARE STILL WITH ORANGE WE RECOMMEND YOU GET YOUR BILL EXAMINED.

60 minutes maximum for £29.38 on talk 60*
orange

125 MINUTES MAXIMUM FOR £26.44 ON REGULAR CALLER PLUS*
CELLNET

RING 0800 21 4000 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THE NET THAT SETS YOU FREE. cellnet

*Based on equivalent recommended tariffs. 125 mins max of off-peak calls. Minutage reduces when peak-time calls are made. Telecom Securicor Cellular Radio.

The right result in 35 minutes
Vehicle Rescue in just 35 mins £28
☎ 0800 000 111
GREEN FLAG National Breakdown

Beat the price rise.
Vehicle rescue from just £28*
☎ JOIN TODAY CALL FREE
FREE INFORMATION PACK
0800 000 111
LINES OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY 8AM TO 7PM AND SUNDAY 9AM TO 7PM
REF: C3908
GREEN FLAG National Breakdown

Post today No stamp needed

TO: GREEN FLAG National Breakdown, FREEPOST, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS99 2NB. Please send me the INFORMATION PACK.

NAME (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) ________
HOME TEL ________
ADDRESS ________
COUNTRY ____ POST CODE ____ C3908

*Plus a once only enrolment fee of £9.00 waived if you join by Direct Debit. Cars registered before 31/7/87 are subject to additional fee of £12.50. Current prices valid until 31/3/96.

Brolin and Yeboah seem likely to move from Leeds

By David Maddock

SEVERAL candidates for the post of coach to the England national football team have turned down the job because of the stress that goes with the territory. Howard Wilkinson, the manager of Leeds United, presumably, is not one of them.

Not only is he under intense pressure from the club's supporters, but also he learnt last night that he is almost certain to lose his two most expensive players at the end of the season, if not before. Enduring the odd "turnip" headline might seem a positive picnic by comparison.

Despite the growing clamour from large sections of the Elland Road crowd for Wilkinson to depart in the wake of defeat in the Coca-Cola Cup final on Sunday, he yesterday received backing from Leslie Silver, the chairman. Silver sees no reason why Wilkinson should not remain in control next season. If that is the case, then Wilkinson will have to manage without Tomas Brolin and, almost certainly, Anthony Yeboah.

Brolin wants to leave, four months after his £4.5 million transfer from Parma. "I think the time has come for me to find another club," he said before flying to Stockholm for talks with his agent. Yeboah, the exciting Ghana international who is the club's top scorer with 19 goals, also flew out of the country yesterday, en route to Brazil for an international date.

Joachim Leukel, his agent, admitted that Yeboah was now considering strongly the possibility of a move. "Leeds are a nothing club at the moment and Tony is very unhappy with what is a very bad situation — it is a real problem that he will not be in Europe next season," he said.

Francis Lee, the Manchester City chairman, expressed concern yesterday about reports linking Georgiou Kinkladze, his Georgia international, with continental clubs. "I am convinced these rumours are being put about by one of our Premiership rivals," Lee said. "They want to make Kinkladze unsettled in the hope that they can sign him."

IN BRIEF

Britain take control with late flurry

THE Great Britain women's hockey team swept to an 8-2 victory over France at Bisham Abbey yesterday as they continued their build-up to the Olympic Games (Alix Ramsay writes). However, despite fielding a stronger side than England put out to beat France 2-0 on Sunday, Britain took a long time to wear down a determined France defence.

The deadlock was broken after 15 minutes when Sixsmith forced the ball home, but Picard equalised five minutes before the break. Atkins put Britain ahead early in the second half only for France to draw level again through Picard. As France tired, Britain took control with goals from McDonald (2), Fraser (2), Simpson and Robertson.

Morgan shines

Snooker: Alan McManus, who ended 17 months without a tournament win by lifting the Thailand Open ten days ago, was surprisingly beaten 6-4 by Darren Morgan in the first round of the Benson and Hedges Irish Masters at Goffs, Co Kildare, yesterday.

McManus won the first frame, but was never ahead again as Morgan stole the second on the black after trailing 68-11 and accounted for the third with a break of 101. Morgan took the fifth and sixth frames with late runs of 67 and 49 and rounded off his best performance of the season with breaks of 83 and 86.

Cook appointed

Football: Mitch Cook, 34, was last night appointed director of coaching at Scarborough. Cook replaces Ray McHale, who resigned on Monday. McHale stays on as general manager under Cook, but Don O'Riordan has been released from coaching duties.

Eton excel

Rackets: Eton crowned a fine season by taking the first and second pairs' senior doubles titles in the public schools championships, to add to the senior singles that they won in December. Neal Bailey, the singles champion, teamed up with Patrick Wigan to take the first pairs' title.

TEAMtalk
THE INDEPENDENT NEWS & REPORTS SERVICE
THE HOTTEST TRANSFER NEWS
NEW FASTER ACCESS CODE CALL NOW 0930+ AND REMEMBER CALLS CHARGED PER SECOND

ARSENAL	168 806	MIDDLESBRO	168 823
ASTON VILLA	168 811	MILLWALL	168 829
BIRMINGHAM	168 845	NEWCASTLE	168 816
BLACKBURN	168 821	NORWICH	168 818
BOLTON	168 836	NOTTS COUNTY	168 839
BRADFORD	168 851	NOTT'M FOREST	168 813
BRENTFORD	168 852	OLDHAM	168 822
BRIGHTON	168 846	PORTSMOUTH	168 840
BRISTOL CITY	168 837	PORT VALE	168 841
BURNLEY	168 838	PRESTON	168 858
CARLISLE	168 854	Q.P.R.	168 825
CHARLTON	168 853	SHEFF WED	168 814
CHELSEA	168 808	SHEFF UTD	168 815
C. PALACE	168 824	SOUTHAMPTON	168 820
COVENTRY	168 817	SPURS	168 807
DERBY COUNTY	168 828	STOKE CITY	168 830
EVERTON	168 805	SUNDERLAND	168 827
HUDDERSFIELD	168 861	SWINDON	168 831
IPSWICH	168 819	TRANMERE	168 842
LEEDS UNITED	168 803	W.B.A.	168 843
LEICESTER	168 835	WEST HAM	168 812
LIVERPOOL	168 804	WIMBLEDON	168 826
MAN CITY	168 802	WOLVES	168 834
MAN UTD	168 801	FULL ROUND UP	168 860

Calls Charged 39p/min cheap, 49p/min other times. IMS Leeds LS1 8LB

Bag this *FREE offer.

FREE SPORTS BAG FOR FIRST TIME TELEPHONE CALLERS staking £25 or more using Switch or Delta bank or building society debit cards.
RING TODAY-BET TODAY
0800 44 40 40
(Minimum total investment per call £10. Over 18's only.)
*Free sports bag will be sent within 7 to 10 days of your first bet being placed.

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL
8/11 ENGLAND 11/5 DRAW BULGARIA 10/3
Wembley, Kick-off 8.00pm, Live on Sky.

FIRST GOALSCORER

5/1	FERDINAND	12/1	KOSTADINOV
7/1	STOICHKOV	14/1	BEARDSLEY
10/1	GASCOIGNE	16/1	LEE
10/1	PLATT	20/1	BALAKOV

Other players on request.

CORRECT SCORE

5/1	ENGLAND	1-0	18/1	DRAW	2-2
12/1	ENGLAND	3-1	16/1	BULGARIA	2-0
11/2	DRAW	0-0	50/1	BULGARIA	3-1

Other scores on request.

William HILL

TO OPEN A CREDIT ACCOUNT FREEPHONE 0800 289 892 WILLIAM HILL RULES APPLY PRICES SUBJECT TO FLUCTUATION

IOC braced for flood of positive drug tests

By David Miller

DEREK CASEY, the director general of the Sports Council, is optimistic that a high-resolution mass-spectrometer drug-testing apparatus, similar to that to be used by the Atlanta laboratory during the centenary Olympic Games this year, should become available to British sport during the next two weeks.

The case of Diane Modahl, who was cleared by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) on Monday, 21 months after her positive test in Lisbon, Portugal, has made the Sports Council and British Olympic Association anxious that foolproof random testing, equivalent in standard to that in Atlanta, should be utilised before the Games.

Sport faces a financial crisis on drug testing. In Great Britain, many sports other than athletics would have been bankrupted by an incident such as that of Modahl, who is suing the British Athletic Federation (BAF) for £480,000 in costs and damages. Yet the new International Olympic Committee (IOC) testing apparatus, approved for Atlanta at an executive board meeting this month, is as much as ten times more sensitive than the previous system.

The threat facing all national Olympic committees is that the new system has the potential to reveal dozens, if not hundreds, of positive cases in Atlanta. Subsequent challenges in the courts by competitors could prove financially catastrophic to sport.

Tony Ward, the spokesman for the BAF, said yesterday: "We welcome, as always, any system that catches steroid cheats, but sport has to have an arbitration court in order to avoid punitive legal costs."

The IOC has such a court, but the BAF is contesting with IAAF the costs of the Modahl case, caused by imperfections of procedure at the Lisbon laboratory.

Casey said yesterday that testing apparatus comparable to Atlanta's is available in Britain within the pharmacological industry. "We need a temporary but dedicated machine for use prior to the Games," he said. "It's not a matter of if, but when. We should have a decision soon."

Professor Arne Ljungqvist, a leading figure on the IAAF and IOC medical commissions, confirmed that improved testing will threaten every competitor who takes a risk at the forthcoming Games. There could be a flood of positive tests as the new equipment, he says, is far more sensitive, thanks to increased cell magnification. "We are improving, and can analyse a lower level, and over a longer period [retroactively]," Ljungqvist said.

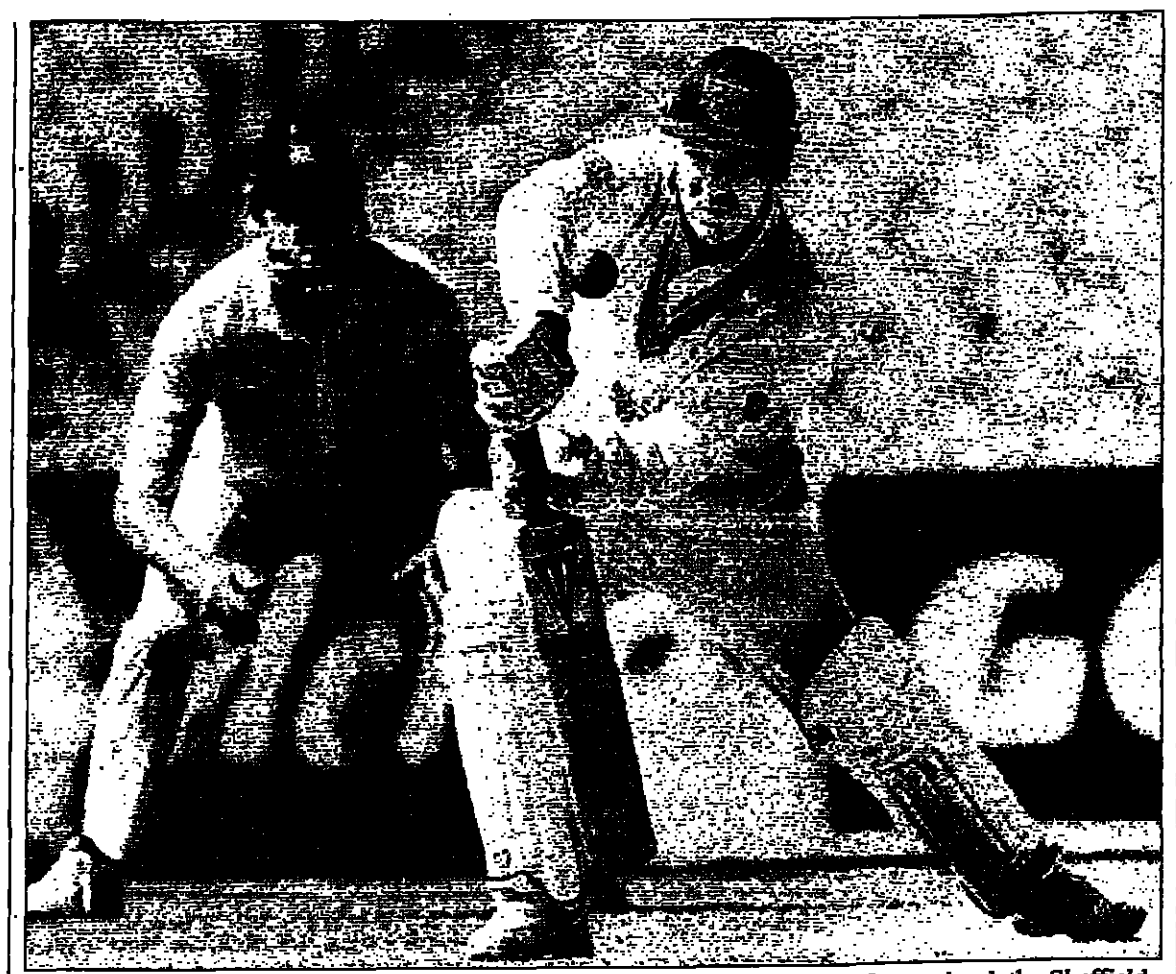
It may, therefore, already be too late for some competitors taking illegal performance-enhancing drugs to cease in order to be "clean" for the Games during the last two weeks of July. "If competitors don't understand that we have improved, they will have miscalculated," Ljungqvist said.

On the evidence of analysis using the new apparatus last year in weightlifting, steroid testing is now between three and ten times as effective. Ljungqvist says that it will be helpful for the Atlanta organisers to adopt a positive rather than negative response, welcoming the technological breakthrough by promoting "a clean Olympics".

Billy Payne, the president of the Atlanta organising committee, while saying "we favour all measures to create a level playing field", is understandably alarmed at the prospect of the centenary Games being marred by wholesale positive tests.

Juan Antonio Samaranch, the IOC president, thinks that the short-term adverse publicity of multiple positives will, in the long term, be beneficial. After the executive board decision to introduce the testing, he said: "Where the equipment is available, what would the public say if we did not use it?"

As Kevan Gosper, an IOC executive board member, observed, the objective is to "protect the honest, not the cheats".



Allan Border, the former Australia captain, makes his final appearance for Queensland, the Sheffield Shield holders, who went down to Victoria by five wickets at the Melbourne Cricket Ground yesterday

Doctored greens end home bias

From David Rhys Jones in Adelaide

WHEN Steve Boylan, of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, asked Rowan Brassey, of New Zealand, why he had lost 25-9 to Sammy Allen, of Ireland, in the world outdoor bowls singles championship here yesterday, Brassey replied: "At times, I thought I was back at Worthing."

However highly English bowlers may rate the sacred turf at their impressive headquarters at Beach House Park, Brassey's remark was not meant as a compliment. Like most Antipodean competitors, he was unsuited by the lush greens at Worthing, where the 1992 championships were played and where the home countries won most of the medals. Four years on, the Australians and New Zealanders were confident of cutting "the Poms" down to size under home conditions. No wonder he was disappointed.

The World Bowls Board, in its wisdom, has decreed that United Kingdom greens, which run slower than 12 seconds, and Australian ones, which run faster than 17 seconds, provide home competitors with an unfair advantage, and have directed greenkeepers at the Lockleys Centre here to keep the greens at a modest 14 seconds. Strange as it may seem, the faster the green, the longer the ball takes to reach the jack.

Brassey feels that artificial watering has made the greens more difficult to play, especially for competitors from the southern hemisphere. Although he led 7-3, he was never happy. From 8-8, Allen scored 17 shots to Brassey's one, then disarmingly and unscientifically defined the secret of his success. "I just kept plonking them around the jack, and Rowan kept missing," he said.

Later, Allen failed to cope with the flair of Richard Corsie, the favourite to win the title, but recovered from 6-20 to 16-20 before Corsie got home, 25-17. Tony Allcock, the defending champion, maintained his unbeaten record, as did Kelvin Kerkow, the host country's great hope.

Results, page 46

Sabatini halts Capriati's progress

By Our Sports Staff

JENNIFER CAPRIATI'S impressive comeback was ended by Gabriela Sabatini in the fourth round of the Lipton tennis championships in Key Biscayne, Florida, on Monday night. Sabatini, combining spin and aggression, proved too consistent for Capriati, who was playing only her third tournament after a two-year absence, and took the first set 6-1 in 26 minutes.

With breaks of service in the first, fifth and seventh games of the second set, Sabatini raced to a 5-2 lead, but Capriati mounted a valiant effort to stay in the match and recovered to trail only 5-4. Serving for the match, Sabatini hit three double faults but pulled herself together to claim the set 6-4.

"I was surprised how well Jennifer was playing so soon after a long break," Sabatini said. "I had to play a great match to beat her." Capriati was delighted with her own performance. "I feel like I'm back," she said. "It was just like old times."

Steffi Graf, the No 1 seed, played impeccably to brush aside Mary Joe Fernandez, the No 9 seed, 6-1, 6-0 in 51 minutes. "I was astonished how well it went," Graf said. "I felt like I could hit whatever I wanted to." Graf meets Kimiko Date, of Japan, in the quarter-finals.

In the men's event, Andre Agassi, the No 3 seed, survived a scare to beat Jean-Philippe Fleurian, of France, ranked No 115 in the world, 6-2, 4-6, 6-2.

Stefan Edberg, in his final season, advanced to the fourth round with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over Nicolas Pereira, of Venezuela. It is the first time this year that Edberg, from Sweden, has won three matches in succession.

Today's Olympian sacrifices fun for richer pickings

MIDWEEK VIEW

SIMON BARNES

There is a man named Kieren Perkins who can swim awfully fast. So fast, that he is regarded as a shoo-in for the Olympic Games 1,500 metres freestyle. He is world champion and world record-holder at the distance. He is charming, Australian and adored.

He also faces a legal bill of A$100,000 (about £52,000) for suing the sponsor of the Australian swimming team. The company in question is called Telstra; the team has been obligingly, not to say ingratiatingly, called Telstra Dolphins.

Not surprisingly, Telstra was keen to exploit its investment, and it did so by using a picture of the team's hottest property. Its choice, inevitably, was the lovely Perkins, iron man of the pool, living national treasure, etc, etc.

Perkins was not happy about this, because nobody asked his permission. So, he sued. Alas, he lost, hence the six-figure legal bill; but it will not ruin him. Perkins has plenty of dollars: he even has his own television show.

This is simply a tale of modern sporting life. It is absurd, naturally, but it is not really all that exceptional. Perkins is not a monster of greed, just a person at the top of a fiendishly exacting trade . . . but let us zip-pan to Judy Grinham. Remember her?

She won the Olympic gold medal for the 100 metres backstroke in 1956. She was given the same time as an American — 1min 12.9sec — but was awarded the race on a judge's decision. She has never received any official honour, the only British swimmer with an Olympic title to have been overlooked.

In 1958, she was asked to do an advertisement in which she was to make a cake with margarine instead of butter and show how much easier life was with marge. In short, free money. She turned it down. Last week, at an Olympic centenary dinner with other British Olympic swimmers, she gazed with mild bewilderment at the monster that modern sport has become. For such as Perkins, sport is a business and a tough one — a vehicle for vaulting ambition, everlasting fame and pots of money.

Grinham still says that she never competed for anything except personal enjoyment. Fun. She expected, and expects, no reward. She is not even the remotest bit self-righteous; just a little troubled for the swimmers themselves.

"People don't seem to enjoy things as much," she said. "They seem too serious. Bobby Charlton once said that he didn't mind too much if opponents went past him, because he could then have the pleasure of watching a skilful player score a magnificent goal. You wouldn't hear that today. It's all aggression."

Indeed it is. An Olympic swimming final is glory for one, despair for seven others. It is no sideshow, set apart from real life; real lives and real destinies depend on a few splashes. The higher the stakes, the greater the despair; the greater the elation, the more compelling the spectacle — and the less fun for competitors.

The concept of fun — perhaps the first motivator for all sport — has reached vanishing point. "I simply don't know if I'd survive these days," Grinham said. "I'm still that 'naive and unsophisticated teenager from Neasden', as someone once described me."

Grinham once protested to the judges on the subject of disqualification. She was not disqualified and she should have been, because she failed to touch the wall on a turn. She was gently told: "Judy, worry about when we disqualify you when you haven't done anything wrong."

A nice story; but such stories abound in their times, as Perkins stories do today. From here, it is a short to step to a blanket condemnation of modern athletes, modern sport, modern money; to heap bile upon the world's legion of Perkinses who will descend on Atlanta this summer to give their polished press conferences, their best profiles to camera, and to seek everlasting glory, eternal fame, and enough millions to pay as many legal bills as they will face.

Blame the athletes? One might as well blame the weathercock for the wind. Why cannot sport be like it was? Might as well yearn for the Pleistocene era and sigh for the days of the woolly mammoth.

Dollo's law: evolution is irreversible; structures and functions, once lost, cannot be regained. So far as modern Olympians are concerned, the lost structure or function is fun. "I can't say that the vast sums of money now are wrong," Grinham said, "it's just different. I never lived in this world."

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

Most of the play developed automatically on this hand from the 1995 New Orleans Nationals, but there was one point at which the declarer had to keep his wits about him. He was Ben Zeidenberg, who, at 21, won one of the main team events.

North-South game **Dealer East** **IMP's**

North:
♠ 10 8 7
♥ K 8 3
♦ A J 10 6
♣ Q 5 3

West:
♠ A 6 2
♥ A 7 4
♦ Q 9 8 4 2
♣ 9 6

East:
♠ 9 4
♥ Q J 10 9 8 2
♦ 5
♣ K J 7 2

South:
♠ K Q J 5 3
♥ 5
♦ K 7 3
♣ A 10 8 4

Contract: Four Spades by South **Lead: Ace of hearts**

East opened with a weak Two Hearts and North-South then bid to Four Spades. After holding the first trick, West accurately switched to a diamond. Dummy's ten won the trick, and Zeidenberg played a spade to the king and ace. West gave his partner a diamond ruff. This was the critical point — it might seem natural for the declarer to play low on this diamond, but Zeidenberg carefully unblocked the king. Now, a second heart came back, won in dummy. The declarer then ran all the trumps, finishing in hand. This was the ending (see diagram).

As you can see, the thoughtful unblock in diamonds allowed Zeidenberg to cash his diamond winners ending in dummy (via the marked finesse). In the two-card ending, East was unable to keep both a heart winner and the king-jack of clubs.

North:
♠ —
♥ 8
♦ A 10
♣ Q

West:
♠ —
♥ 7
♦ Q 9
♣ 9

East:
♠ —
♥ J 10
♦ —
♣ K J

South:
♠ —
♥ —
♦ 7
♣ A 10 8

☐ For details of *The Times* Midland Private Banking National Bridge challenge, contact the event organisers on 0181-942 9506 or write to Britannic Building, Beverley Way, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 4PH or fax to: 0181-942 9569.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

CHINESE BARRAGE
a. Very lights
b. A flank attack
c. Deceptive shelling

BICORNE
a. A corporal of horse
b. A silly hat
c. A French dragoon

BLACK BOB
a. A regimental haircut
b. A German howitzer
c. A General

WIMPY
a. Wellington
b. A poor soldier
c. Iron field rations

Answers on page 46

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Challenger defeated

In the Euwe Memorial tournament in Amsterdam, Garry Kasparov moved into the shared lead by defeating Viswanathan Anand, the Indian grandmaster, his challenger from New York last year.

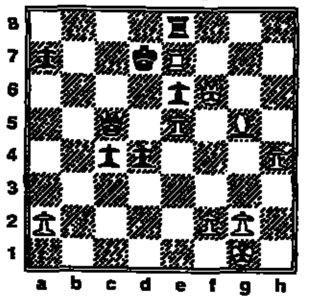
Kasparov, very much in the style of Alexander Alekhine, his hero, offered an obscure pawn sacrifice for unclear attacking chances. Just as Kasparov's queenside and centre appeared to be on the verge of collapse, he crashed through on the king's flank and forced a winning king and pawn endgame. This was one of Kasparov's most inspired games.

White: Garry Kasparov
Black: Viswanathan Anand
Amsterdam, March 1996

Caro-Kann Defence

1	e4	c6
2	d4	d5
3	exd5	cxd5
4	c4	Nf6
5	Nc3	Nc6
6	Bg5	e6
7	Nf3	Be7
8	c5	h6
9	Bf4	Ne4
10	Bb5	Nxc3
11	bxc3	Bd7
12	0-0	0-0
13	Rc1	Re8
14	Re1	Bf6
15	Rb1	b6
16	Ba6	Bc8
17	Bb5	Bd7
18	Ba6	Bc8
19	Bd3	bxc5
20	Ne5	Bd7
21	Rb7	Bxe5
22	dxe5	Rb8
23	Rxb8	Qxb8
24	Qg4	Kf8
25	Re3	Qd8
26	h4	Qa5
27	Rg3	Ke7
28	Qxg7	Kd8
29	Qxf7	Qxc3
30	Bb5	Qa5
31	Rg7	Ne7
32	Bxd7	Kxd7
33	Qf6	d4
34	Bxh6	c4
35	Bg5	Qc5
36	Rxe7+	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



In the final position, Black resigned in view of the variation 36, ... Rxe7; 37, Qxe7+ Qxe7; 38, Bxe7 Kxe7; 39, Kf1 d3; 40, Ke1 c3; 41, h5 Kf7; 42, g4. In this position, although Black's pawns appear, on the surface to be more dangerous, White's king holds them at bay. Meanwhile, Black has no defence to the plan of f4 and f5 creating a series of passed pawns that the black king cannot stop.

Times chess book

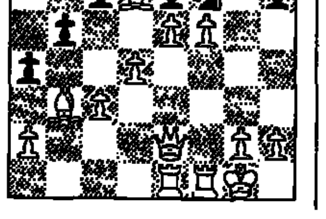
Improve your game with Ray Keene's book, *The Times Winning Chess*, published by Batsford at £9.99 (credit card orders 01376 327901).

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Alekhine — Prat, Paris, 1913. Here, Alekhine launched a brilliant combination that drew the black king out into the open and led to a forced checkmate. What did he play?



Solution on page 46

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 166th Annual General Meeting of National Mutual Life Assurance Society will be held at the registered office of the Society, The Priory, Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG5 2DW on Monday 22nd April 1996 at noon for the following purposes:

- to receive and consider the Directors' Report, the Accounts for 1995 and the Auditors' Report thereon;
- to re-elect Directors;
- to re-appoint the Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

Members qualified to vote at the above meeting are entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on a poll in their place. A proxy need not be a member of the Society. The instrument appointing a proxy must be received at the registered office as shown above at least 48 hours before the commencement of the meeting.

By order of the Board

R C Engledow, Secretary

19 March 1996

NATIONAL MUTUAL LIFE
The Pensions Specialist

LEGAL NOTICES

ELLIS BUILDING SERVICES LIMITED
Nature of Business - Construction. Registered Number - 2722673. Administration Order Made 15 March 1996. Dated 19 March 1996 JOINT ADMINISTRATORS: S V FREAKLEY AND D J BUCHLER OF BUCHLER PHILLIPS, 84 GROSVENOR STREET, LONDON W1X 9DF.

ELLIS CIVIL ENGINEERING LIMITED
Nature of Business - Construction Registered Number - 2751360 Administration Order Made:15 March 1996 Date 19 March 1996. JOINT ADMINISTRATORS: S V FREAKLEY AND D.J. BUCHLER, OF BUCHLER PHILLIPS, 84 GROSVENOR STREET, LONDON W1X 9DF.

ELLIS CONSTRUCTION LIMITED
Nature of Business - Construction Registered Number - 2722670 Administration Order Made 15 March 1996 Dated 19 March 1996 Joint Administrators: S V FREAKLEY AND D.J. BUCHLER, OF BUCHLER PHILLIPS, 84 GROSVENOR STREET, LONDON W1X 9DF.

ELLIS INTERIORS LIMITED
Nature of Business - Construction. Registered Number - 2453267. Administration Order Made: 15 March 1996.
Dated 19 March 1996.
JOINT ADMINISTRATORS: S V FREAKLEY AND D J BUCHLER, OF BUCHLER PHILLIPS, 84 GROSVENOR STREET, LONDON W1X 9DF.

ELLIS HOLDINGS LIMITED
Nature of Business - Property Development Registered Number - 2136760 Administration Order Made 15 March 1996 Dated 19 March 1996 JOINT ADMINISTRATORS: S V FREAKLEY AND D.J. BUCHLER OF BUCHLER PHILLIPS, 84 GROSVENOR STREET, LONDON W1X 9DF.

METROSHELL LIMITED (IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
In Accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, S.D.Swaden, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 20th March 1996. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
DATED THIS 20th MARCH 1996.
S.D. Swaden, FCA, Liquidator.

PPW STAR LIMITED
Nature of Business - SAND/BALLAST MERCHANTS/GEN HAULAGE Registered Number: 878396. Administration Order Made:19 March 1996. Date 22 March 1996 Joint Administrators: L A MANNING AND D J BUCHLER BOTH OF BUCHLER PHILLIPS, 84 GROSVENOR STREET LONDON W1X 9DF.

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 - SECTION 392 & 393
AUTHORISATION OF INSOLVENCY PRACTITIONERS
TAKE NOTE that I, STEPHEN JOHN EVANS, of Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU intend to apply to the Secretary of State under the provisions of the above act for authorisation to act as an Insolvency Practitioner. Any person having reason to believe that such authorisation should not be granted should, within 28 days of publication of this notice, communicate such reason to the
Department of Trade & Industry Area 1.10, PO Box 203,
21 Bloomsbury Street, London, WC1B 3QW

هكذا من الأصل

Cigar embarks on quest to extend global influence

Julian Muscat watches a great champion in rehearsal for his most challenging performance

When you have won 13 consecutive races and more than $5 million, you are entitled to reach for the furthest frontiers. Cigar does just that in the Dubai World Cup today when the champion six-year-old, racing outside the United States for the first time, meets his date with destiny.

Should he win, Cigar will cross the line separating great horses from the sublime. The plaudits have been almost grudging despite Cigar's outstanding sequence, in which he has treated opponents with disdain. This is his chance to drive home the message.

There is an intangible, magical quality about great racehorses. It drips from them like the liquid gold to have made this contest possible. Sheikh Mohammed alluded to it on Monday when fondly reminiscing of Lammtarra: "Sometimes, before he went to gallop, he would just stop. He would be still, just looking around. I don't know why. Maybe he was telling the other horses he was the best."

It is as well for the sheikh's four runners that Cigar has not set eyes on them since his arrival. The horse has been quarantined but his daily exercise has become familiar. Together with his pony, Snowball, Cigar takes to the track, walks to the winning post and stands motionless, surveying his kingdom. Only then does he consent to work.

Cigar's appearance yesterday suggested he knows the day is near. He was on his toes, prancing, boasting, delighting the photographers. Let loose, he obeyed his rider's restraint while making plain his readiness for the task. He looked like a coiled spring. These were marvellous, private moments with a thoroughbred in his prime.

Nevertheless, to indulge Cigar in morning tranquil is to lose sight of his objective. He must prove himself on the track, which, in itself, will ask serious questions of him in the opening strides. The dirt surface at Nad Al Sheba, more demanding than he has previously encountered, could sap Cigar dry, particularly if the rains extend to today. The odds are metaphorically against him, even if he is favoured by the bookmakers.

Allen Paulson, the horse's owner, conceded the point. "The track is a little deep, but it will be the same for every horse. We won't use it as an excuse if he is beaten." Bill Mott, who trains Cigar, adopts an admirably similar line, although he ventured of another American runner: "Soul Of The Matter is going to be very tough to beat." Intriguingly, Soul Of The Matter, brittle of hoof, is proven in deep sand.

Such concerns render prophecies of the outcome like tilting at windmills. Pentire, trained in Newmarket by Geoff Wragg, has thrived since he journeyed here last month. This quick-actioned colt is best on a fast turf surface; whether he can cope with these conditions must be open to doubt. Needle Gun, who completes the British challenge, is rated a 100-1 shot, although that has not dampened the enthusiasm of his trainer, Clive Brittain.

Australia, represented by Danewin, and Japan, by Lively Mount, appear less menacing than Godolphin's four-pronged challenge, fronted by Halling and Tamayaz. The latter, with a pedigree to excel on dirt, is improving fast.

Doubtless Sheikh Mohammed is plotting an ambush in the finest Bedouin tradition. For all his competitive spirit, however, the only satisfactory outcome is for Cigar to transpose his brilliance from home soil to Dubai, which promotes itself as a gateway to the world.

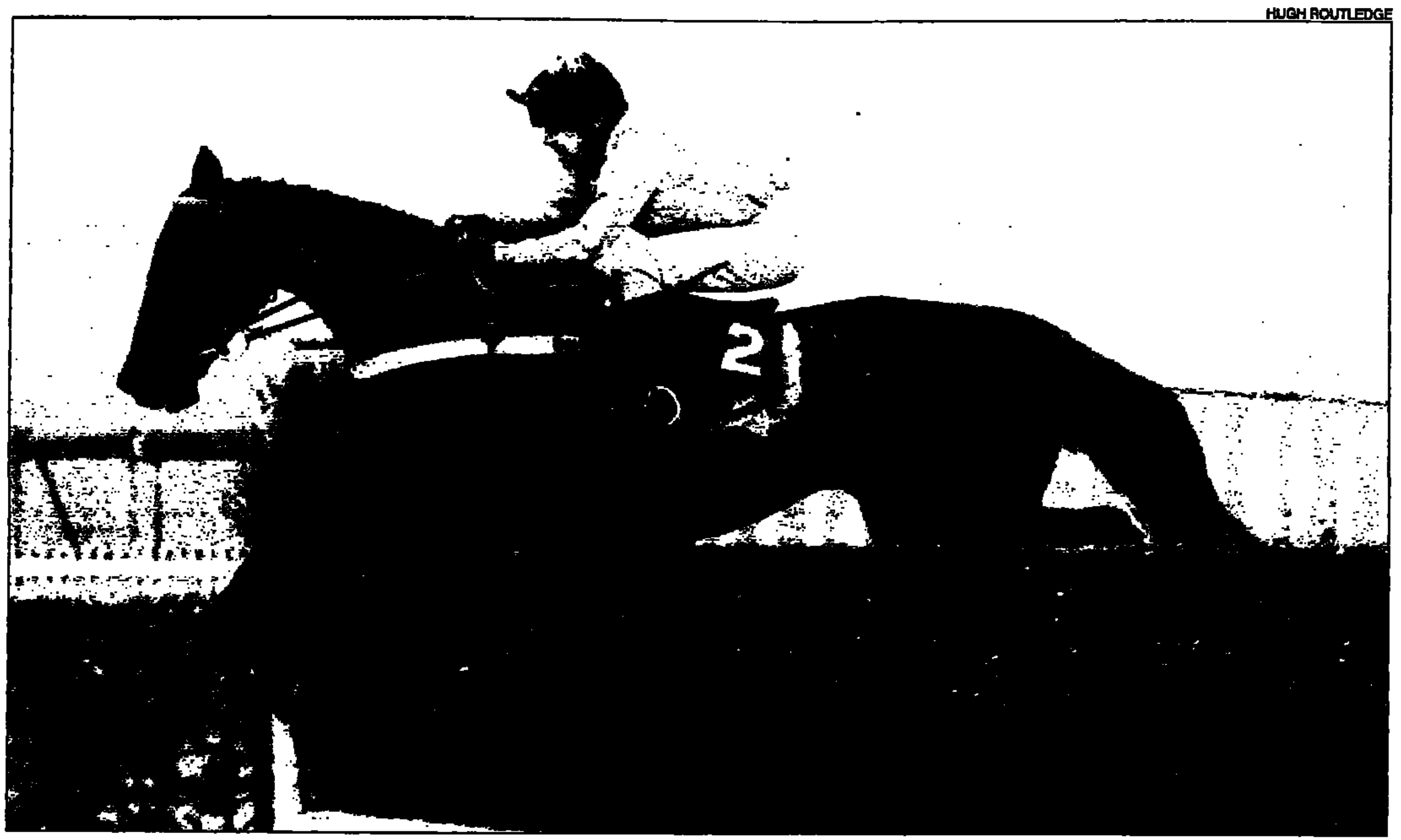
BIG-RACE FIELD C4

3.00 DUBAI WORLD CUP (£1,548,387: 1m 2f dirt) (11 runners)

1 (1) 11114-3 LIVELY MOUNT 63 (G,S) (T Kato) F Shibata (Jap) 5-8-12 M Ishibashi
2 (2) 12142-4 L'CARRIERE 25 (G,S) (V Kraft Payson) H Bond (US) 5-8-12 J Chavez
3 (3) 11513-1 LARROCHA 31 (F,G) (Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed) S bin Suroor (UAE) 4-8-8 Pat Eddery
4 (4) 1214-2 SOUL OF THE MATTER 53 (G) (B Bacharach) R Mandella (US) 5-8-12 G Stevens
5 (5) 11110-1 HALLING 24 (F,G,S) (S.M.R M) S bin Suroor (UAE) 5-8-12 L Dettori
6 (6) 41/14-11 TAMAYAZ 17 (F,G,S) (M Al-Maktoum) S bin Suroor (UAE) 4-8-11 C McCarron
7 (7) 1010-16 DANEWIN 25 (G) (S Yars & A Cheung & N Lootah) R Thomsen (Aus) 5-8-12 D Oliver
8 (8) 11111-1 CIGAR 46 (G,S) (A Paulson) W Mott (US) 6-8-12 J Bailey
9 (9) 15142-2 TORRENTIAL 24 (F,G,S) (L.M.R.M) S bin Suroor (UAE) 4-8-11 O Peslier
10 (10) 361452 NEEDLE GUN 108 (F,G) (S Manana) C Brittain (GB) 6-8-12 B Doyle
11 (11) 111211- PENTIRE 200 (F,G) (Mollers Racing) G Wragg (GB) 4-8-11 M Hills

BETTING: Evens Cigar, 4-1 Halling, 9-2 Pentire, 7-1 Tamayez, 12-1 L'Carrera, 14-1 Danewin, Soul Of The Matter, 25-1 Larrocha, 50-1 Torrential, 100-1 Lively Mount, Needle Gun.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Norman Conqueror gives Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother a memorable victory in the Royal Artillery Gold Cup at Sandown yesterday

Norman Conqueror earns royal favour

By Richard Evans, racing journalist of the year

A CHANGE in the entry rules for the Royal Artillery Gold Cup Steeplehcase enabled the Queen Mother to enjoy the 413th success of her career yesterday — and one of the most exciting.

The conditions were altered to allow Colonels-in-Chief of regiments other than the Royal Artillery to have a runner and racing's most popular owner was on hand to see her silks carried to a four-length success by Major Ollie Ellwood on Norman Conqueror.

However, the 6-4 on favourite looked anything but the winner turning out of the back staight and was struggling in third place, a good 15 lengths behind True Steel. Despite jumping into second place at the Pond Fence, the leader still appeared beyond recall but as he tired and blundered at the final obstacle, Norman Conqueror surged into the lead and powered up the Sandown hill.

Norman Conqueror, who won the Grand Military Gold Cup at the Esher course earlier this month, is the first horse to have won both races in the same season and a clearly delighted owner braved chill winds to talk to the horse's trainer, Tim Thomson Jones, and his lad, Jimmy McLelland, before receiving her prize.

The winner is entered in the Irish National, a race in which the Queen Mother has never had a runner, but he is unlikely to be take part.

Thomson Jones said: "He's a quirky horse and if he's not up with the pace he switches himself off, which is what happened today. The jockey gave him an unbelievable ride from the water jump to get him back into the race.

"The Queen Mother was absolutely delighted. It is rather nice in the first year she was allowed to have a runner to have a horse that was eligible and good enough for the race."

Earlier in the day Mick Fitzgerald found himself "jocked off" Rough Quest, the favourite for the Grand National on Saturday, but he was not complaining. The jockey had been due to ride out the Cheltenham Gold Cup runner-up for his trainer, Terry Casey, yesterday. "Terry wanted to ride the horse himself because he knows him very well and I agree with him.

"No-one is better than Terry at telling you how the horse is and I spoke to him afterwards and he was absolutely chuffed to bits with him."

Fitzgerald has ridden in the Grand National only once before and fell at the first fence. Although Rough Quest is a form "certainty", judged on his Cheltenham performance, the affable Irishman is well aware the defeats of horses with similar or better credentials — such as Master Oats, Garrison Savannah and Cool Ground — underpins the special test posed by Aintree.

"The National is still unique. It is not just an ordinary race and I don't care what anyone else says about the effect of modifying the fences. If Rough Quest gets round he's got a great chance. He'll get the trip — the biggest problem is the 30 fences."

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: PEGGY SPENCER
(3.25 Catterick)
Next best: Deadline Time
(5.00 Catterick)

CHEPSTOW

THUNDERER

2.00 Potentate
2.35 Hag's Way
3.10 Mariner's Air
3.40 Desperate
4.10 All Clear
4.40 HOLLAND HOUSE (nap)
5.10 St Mellion Drive

Carl Evans: 4.40 Goolds Gold.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN PLACES) SIS

2.00 BEAGLES NOVICES HURDLE (£2,472: 2m 110yd) (13 runners)

1 610 GREEN CRUSADER 15 (V,S) (Mrs V Ward) Mrs V Ward 5-11-8 J R Kavanagh [illegible]
2 10 POTENTATE 15 (CD,S) (J Weeden) M Pipe 5-11-8 D Bridgwater 91
3 60 HANG'EM OUT TO DRY 23 (Torrance and Davies RC) C Brooks 5-11-2 G Bradley –
4 0P KEY TO MOYADE 74 (Mrs L Harper) M Wilkinson 6-11-2 C Llewellyn –
5 0/F,PU0- PUKKA SAHIB 391 (Miss B Swire) G Balding 9-11-2 A P McCoy –
6 00 RUNIC SYMBOL 20 (D Sloan) M Blanshard 5-11-2 S McNeill 58
7 4 TWIN SAILOR 22 (G Phillips) T Forster 6-11-2 S Wynne –
8 6P6 POLLYDALUS 30 (In Touch Partnership) G McCourt 5-10-11 B Clifford –
9 /03240/ SLIPMATIC 732 (P Sims) A Turnell 7-10-11 L Harvey –
10 CAVIL 169F (D Ashbrook) W Clay 4-10-8 Guy Lewis (3) –
11 0 EURO SINGER 30 (Syndicate From Hell) P Webber 4-10-8 R Bellamy –
12 POLO PONY (N Jones) J Upson 4-10-8 R Supple –
13 54 SHY PADDY 15 (Danebury Stables Ltd) K Cunningham-Brown 4-10-8 M A Fitzgerald 59

BETTING: 6-4 Potentate, 2-1 Green Crusader, 8-1 Twin Sailor, 10-1 Shy Paddy, 14-1 Runic Symbol, 16-1 others

1995: KILLONE ABBOT 6-11-8 J Osborne (15-8 fav) J Old 23 ran

FORM FOCUS

GREEN CRUSADER 21l 9th of 21 to Indefence in grade I Citroen Supreme Novices Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to soft) with POTENTATE 12l 14th. POTENTATE beat Lord Rooble 15l in maiden hurdle over course and distance (soft) on penultimate start. TWIN SAILOR 8½l 4th to Nazone in National Hunt Flat race at Newbury (2m, good to soft). SLIPMATIC neck 2nd to Hawaiian Youth in novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, soft), Feb 1994. SHY PADDY 31½l 4th to Kate Oliver in juvenile hurdle at Windsor (2m, soft).
Selection: POTENTATE

2.35 ANVIL NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,071: 2m 3f 110yd) (10 runners)

1 PGFU EDINA 11 (D Yardy) F Bailey 6-11-10 A Thornton –
2 6P032/ RUSSELL DALUS 1075 (S) (Watership Down Enterprises) S Sherwood 9-11-8 J Osborne –
3 00-31P4 HAG'S WAY 28 (D,S) (Mrs A O Sullivan) J Edwards 6-11-5 M A Fitzgerald 80
4 1-PF3 FLIMSY TRUTH 11 (G) (M Weston) M Weston 10-11-5 Mr M Harris [illegible]
5 100154 OLDHILL WOOD 11 (S) (D Mulley) S Mellor 6-11-4 N Mann 88
6 PP1PFF CAVALERO 62 (S) (H Manners) H Manners 7-11-3 Mr A Charles-Jones –
7 4F3122 JASON'S BOY 104 (F,G,S) (W Jones) J Bradley 6-10-11 A P McCoy 91
8 P46200 DAMCADA 14 (S) (E4 Racing) A Carroll 8-10-0 W Marston 83
9 0P00U0 BILLY BARTER 28 (V) (Cornish Connection) G Balding 6-10-0 B Clifford –
10 50/P0P0 DUNNICKS VIEW 28 (F Tucker) F Tucker 7-10-0 G Upton –

Long handicap: Damcada 9-11, Billy Barter 9-11, Dunnicks View 9-4

BETTING: 5-2 Jason's Boy, 7-2 Oldhill Wood, 4-1 Hag's Way, 5-1 Edina, 7-1 Flimsy Truth, 10-1 Russell Dalus, 12-1 Cavalero, 16-1 others

1995: LLACCA SAM 6-10-7 N Williamson (3-1) M Eckley 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

RUSSELL DALUS 4l 2nd of 10 to Carrigeen Lad in novice hurdle at Stratford (2m 6f 110yd, good to firm), Apr 1993. HAG'S WAY best chase effort, beat Sugar Hill 2½l in 10-runner maiden chase at Fontwell (2m 3f, soft). FLIMSY TRUTH 14½l 3rd of 14 to Bendor Mark in maiden chase at Lingfield (2m 4f 110yd, soft). EDINA (10lb worse off) 3rd when blundered and unseated rider 5th. OLDHILL WOOD 8l 4th of 5 to Beau Babillard in handicap chase at Lingfield (2m, soft). JASON'S BOY ½l 2nd of 10 to Peruvian Gale in novices' handicap chase at Southwell (3m 110yd, good). DAMCADA best effort this season, neck 2nd of 17 to North Bannister in selling handicap hurdle at Folkestone (2m 6f 110yd, good to soft).
Selection: JASON'S BOY

3.10 FARRIER HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,716: 2m 4f 110yd) (9 runners)

1 24-0P63 SUN SURFER 25 (G,S) (S Sainsbury) T Forster 8-12-0 S Wynne 96
2 0-60021 MARINER'S AIR 18 (CD,G,S) (Mrs P Badger) J Spearing 9-11-9 A P McCoy [illegible]
3 325150 LANDED GENTRY 11 (D,S) (K Bell & Son Ltd) C Broad 7-11-4 W Marston 93
4 215/5-05 GO MARY 18 (C,G,S) (Miss C Phillips) Miss C Phillips 10-11-2 B Powell 90
5 131211 TICKERTY'S GIFT 11 (V,S) (K Higson) G L Moore 6-10-12 M Attwater (7) 92
6 10-P4PP EVANGELICA 82 (CD,S) (M Pipe Racing Club) M Pipe 6-10-9 D Bridgwater 88
7 310004 KILCORAN BAY 15 (V,G,S) (N Harris) I Balding 4-10-0 J Osborne 85
8 3P15-30 COUNTRY STORE 11 (S) (Westfield Racing) A Jones 7-10-0 S Curran (3) 89
9 1F0F33 SILVER STANDARD 18 (D,G,S) (G Lugg) T Forster 6-10-0 G Hogan (3) 94

Long handicap: Kilcoran Bay 9-13, Country Store 9-12, Silver Standard 9-10

BETTING: 5-2 Mariner's Air, 4-1 Sun Surfer, 5-1 Tickerty's Gift, 6-1 Kilcoran Bay, 7-1 Landed Gentry, Go Mary, 8-1 Silver Standard, 12-1 others.

1995: HOPS AND POPS 8-11-5 A Maguire (7-4 fav) R Alner 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

SUN SURFER 8½l 3rd of 11 to Lying Eyes in handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, good). MARINER'S AIR beat Selatan 6l in handicap hurdle over course and distance (good to soft) with SILVER STANDARD (4lb better off) 10l 3rd and GO MARY (8lb better off) about 2½l 5th. LANDED GENTRY best effort this season, beat Harding 2½l in 21-runner conditional jockeys handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m 4f, soft). TICKERTY'S GIFT beat Will I Fly 1½l in 6-runner handicap hurdle at Lingfield (2m 3f 110yd, soft). KILCORAN BAY 26l 4th of 11 to King Girseach in novice hurdle at Windsor (2m 6f 110yd, soft). COUNTRY STORE 9½l 3rd of 12 to Esprit de Femme in handicap hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, soft) on penultimate start.
Selection: MARINER'S AIR

RACELINE
0939
OUR NEW CODE GIVES YOU FASTER ACCESS TO THE ACTION AND REMEMBER CALLS CHARGED PER SECOND
0930 168+ COMMENTARY RESULTS
CATTERICK 104 204
CHEPSTOW 105 205
LINGFIELD 106 206
IRISH 120 220
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168
MORNING LINE inc TIMEFORM 368
39p/min cheap 49p/min other times. IMS, Leeds LS1 8LB

CHEPSTOW SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pipe, 55 winners from 207 runners, 26.6%; N Twiston-Davies, 20 from 98, 20.4%; C Brooks, 5 from 31, 16.1%; J Edwards, 4 from 25, 16.0%; K Bailey, 3 from 19, 15.8%; T Forster, 8 from 54, 14.8%; R Alner, 4 from 27, 14.8%; A Turnell, 4 from 32, 12.5%.

JOCKEYS: R Dunwoody, 32 winners from 119 rides, 26.9%; A P McCoy, 9 from 36, 25.0%; G Bradley, 9 from 36, 25.0%; J Lower, 8 from 37, 21.6%; C Llewellyn, 16 from 93, 17.2%; W Marston, 8 from 47, 17.0%; D Bridgwater, 9 from 57, 15.8%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Catterick Bridge: 2.20 Chillam, 3.25 Everset, 5.00 Four Weddings. Chepstow: 3.40 Kentish Piper. Lingfield Park: 2.45 Durham, Sussex Gorse, 4.50 Persian Haze.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.40 PARDUBICE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,758: 3m) (11 runners)

1 1-2121F SISTER STEPHANIE 18 (BF,G,S) (Antwick Pinns) G McCourt 7-11-10 G McCourt 98
2 4-60654 KENTISH PIPER 18 (B,C,F,G,S) (M S Gibson) N Gaselee 11-11-5 R Dunwoody 90
3 25P-2P3 BOWL OF OATS 15 (B,S) (Mrs A Morley) A Turnell 10-11-5 S McNeill 91
4 1135-26 COUNTESS VERUSCHKA 29 (G,S) (H Davies) K Bailey 10-11-2 T J Murphy (3) 85
5 3186-62 DESPERATE 37 (G,S) (Desperate Pinrs) D Sherwood 8-10-13 J Osborne 94
6 P100P6- ABBOTSHAM 310 (CD,F,G,S) (O Carter) O Carter 11-10-12 A Thornton –
7 322PP2 WOODLANDS BOY 9 (D,F,S) (S Moore) R Hoad 8-10-10 Mr J Culloty (5) 94
8 PP2-P33 GOODSHOT RICH 21 (B,D,G,S) (Mrs S Towler) C Brooks 12-10-9 G Bradley 93
9 1P6213 DISTINCTIVE 22 (D,BF,S) (J Hancock) M Wilkinson 7-10-9 R Supple [illegible]
10 25P-4U2 SHAMARPHIL 7 (F,S) (Miss S Barraclough) R Alner 10-10-7 Miss S Barraclough 93
11 1-46P30 HOLY STING 21 (B,BF,S) (G MacEchern) N Twiston-Davies 7-10-0 C Llewellyn 91

Long handicap: Holy Sting 9-9

BETTING: 11-4 Sister Stephanie, 9-2 Desperate, 6-1 Bowl Of Oats, 7-1 Shamarphil, 8-1 Kentish Piper, Distinctive, 10-1 Woodlands Boy, 12-1 others.

1995: MR FLANAGAN 9-11-2 G Bradley (13-2) C Brooks 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

SISTER STEPHANIE fell last when disputing lead in 7-runner novices handicap chase won by Major Bell over course and distance (good to soft). Earlier ½l 2nd of 8 to Billygoat Gruff in novice chase at Towcester (3m 1f, soft) with HOLY STING (23lb better off) 11l 3rd. BOWL OF OATS best effort this season, head 2nd of 9 to K C's Dancer in amateurs handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f 110yd, good to firm). COUNTESS VERUSCHKA 20l 2nd of 13 to Maamur in handicap chase at Towcester (3m 1f, good to soft) on penultimate start. DESPERATE 6l 2nd of 9 to Nazzaro in handicap chase at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, soft). WOODLANDS BOY 5l 2nd of 5 to Easby Joker in handicap chase at Lingfield (2m 4f 110yd, soft). GOODSHOT RICH 22l 3rd of 7 to Direct in hunter chase at Lingfield (3m, soft). DISTINCTIVE 12l 3rd of 6 to Do be Brief in handicap chase at Newbury (3m, good to soft) with KENTISH PIPER (7lb better off) 12½l 5th. SHAMARPHIL neck 2nd of 7 to Makes Me Goosey in handicap chase at Towcester (3m 1f, good).
Selection: SISTER STEPHANIE

4.10 COURT SELLING HURDLE (£2,038: 2m 110yd) (10 runners)

1 213F16 ALL CLEAR 33 (D,BF,G,S) (A Lomas) M Pipe 5-11-11 D Bridgwater [illegible]
2 540511 KADARI 4 (V,D,G,S) (H Clewlow) W Clay 7-11-6 Guy Lewis (3) 97
3 ANOTHERONE TO NOTE 37F (H Manners) H Manners 5-11-1 Mr A Charles-Jones –
4 P46002 FORCING TWO 7 (B) (N Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-1 C Llewellyn 87
5 000000 CHOWPOR 11 (T Cullen) A Carroll 5-10-10 D Walsh (5) 70
6 0-00343 KIRI'S ROSE 16 (Mrs M McCourt) G McCourt 8-10-10 B Clifford 81
7 0- ONE FOR MUM 475 (G West) J Poulton 5-10-10 A Thornton –
8 005-P00 SHE KNEW THE RULES 11 (D Carey) D Carey 6-10-10 B Powell –
9 6-6P030 WHAT'S THE JOKE 23 (J Tuck) J Tuck 7-10-10 S McNeill 84
10 000U DARIUS THE GREAT 16 (C Buttery) D Marks 4-10-7 J A McCarthy 93

BETTING: 7-4 All Clear, 9-4 Kadari, 7-2 Forcing Two, 8-1 Kiri's Rose, 14-1 Chowpor, What's The Joke, 16-1 others

1995: IL BAMBINO 7-10-13 M Appleby (5-1) H Manners 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

ALL CLEAR beat Lake Kariba 2½l in 12-runner novices' handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good to soft) on penultimate start. KADARI completed double, beat Bushehr 2l in 17-runner conditional jockeys' selling handicap hurdle at Bangor (2m 1f, heavy). FORCING TWO short-head 2nd of 10 to Zamirah in amateur riders' selling hurdle at Towcester (2m, good to soft). KIRI'S ROSE 18½l 3rd of 13 to Game Dilemma in selling hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good); DARIUS THE GREAT unseated rider 2nd. WHAT'S THE JOKE 10½l 3rd of 11 to Harvest View in novices' handicap hurdle at Folkestone (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start with CHOWPOR (13lb better off) 91½l 9th.
Selection: ALL CLEAR (nap)

4.40 EARTHSTOPPERS HUNTERS CHASE

(Amateurs: £1,744: 3m) (10 runners)

1 11111-1 COOME HILL 20 (F,G,S) (W Dennis) Mrs J Dennis 7-12-4 T Dennis (7) 93
2 21-U415 HOLLAND HOUSE 13 (CD,F,G,S) (E Knight) P Chamings 10-12-4 C Vigors (5) 96
3 1F11 HOWARYASUN 11 (V,D,G,S) (M Watkins) Mrs C Hardinge 8-12-4 D S Jones (7) 80
4 355385 RUSTY BRIDGE 11 (D,F,G) (I Johnson) Mrs S Johnson 9-12-4 R Thornton (7) 72
5 U61-1U3 MY MELLOW MAN 16 (D,F,G,S) (W Gooden) W Gooden 13-12-1 Miss S Vickery (7) 75
6 1U4-U1S PERCY THROWER 7 (G,S) (Double Octagon Pinrs) N Twiston-Davies 9-12-1 C Bonner (3) 92
7 90-161 GOOLDS GOLD 10P (B) (D Brace) D Brace 10-11-12 Miss P Jones (5) [illegible]
8 UF11 LIGHTEN THE LOAD 11P (S) (J Payne) J Payne 9-11-12 A Wintle (7) –
9 UP044 PYRO PENNANT 4P (M Roche) L Saunders 11-11-12 Miss P Cooper (5) –
10 2P2PP3- SKERRY MEADOW 303 (F,G) (O Carter) O Carter 12-11-12 I Dowrick (7) 70

BETTING: 9-4 Coome Hill, 11-4 Holland House, 7-2 Goolds Gold, 8-1 Howaryasun, Percy Thrower, 10-1 Lighten The Load, 16-1 My Mellow Man, 20-1 others.

1995: HOLLAND HOUSE 9-11-3 C Vigors (9-4 fav) P Chamings 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

COOME HILL beat Sonolagipsy 30l in 5-runner hunter chase at Wincanton (3m 1f 110yd, good to firm). HOLLAND HOUSE 16½l 5th of 17 to Elegant Lord in Christies Foxhunters Chase at Cheltenham (3m 2f 110yd, good) with GOOLDS GOLD (6lb better off) 2½l 6th. Previously beat Buonarroti 20l in 9-runner hunter chase at Lingfield (3m, heavy). HOWARYASUN completed double, beat All Weather 8l in 13-runner hunter chase at Hereford (3m 1f 110yd, soft) with RUSTY BRIDGE (3lb better off) distant 5th. MY MELLOW MAN 8l 3rd of 11 to Space Cappa in hunter chase at Taunton (3m, good). PERCY THROWER beat Another Coral 16l in 6-runner hunter chase at Market Rasen (3m 1f, good) on penultimate start. GOOLDS GOLD beat News Review 12l in 10-runner ladies open at Erw Lon (good). LIGHTEN THE LOAD completed double, beat Touch 'N' Pass 20l in 5-runner mixed open at Mapor (3m, good to soft).
Selection: COOME HILL

5.10 LEVY BOARD STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

(£1,364: 2m 110yd) (12 runners)

1 140 ST MELLION DRIVE 14 (S) (St Mellion Estates Ltd) M Pipe 6-11-9 D Bridgwater –
2 BOOZYS DREAM (G Legg) K Cunningham-Brown 5-11-2 A P McCoy –
3 00-0 MUMMY'S MOLE 123 (Braun Ltd) Graeme Roe 5-11-2 W Humphreys –
4 REAL ALE (The Real Ale Racing Pinrs) P Webber 6-11-2 Mr P Scott (7) –
5 SHEKELS (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 5-11-2 G Bradley –
6 DUMBLETON BROOK (R Godwin) M Pipe 5-10-11 J Lower –
7 TRUE RHYME (Mrs M Whatford) C Smith 6-10-11 B Clarke (7) –
8 CHIEF INSPIRATION (Mallsword Ltd) F Yardley 4-10-8 W McFarland –
9 MILLING BROOK (G Lucas) J Bradley 4-10-8 R Farrant –
10 THE CROOKED OAK (Mrs S Faulks) L Cottrell 4-10-8 D Burrows (7) –
11 TRYMYPLY (H Webb) H Webb 4-10-8 S McNeill –
12 ZAGGY LANE (Miss A Furniss) Mrs R Henderson 4-10-8 J F Titley –

BETTING: 5-4 St Mellion Drive, 3-1 Shekels, 7-2 Dumbleton Brook, 14-1 Real Ale, Milling Brook, 16-1 True Rhyme, Chief Inspiration, 25-1 others

1995: MENDIP PRINCE 5-10-11 G Tormey (7-1) P Hobbs 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

ST MELLION DRIVE 21l 9th of 24 to Wither Or Which in grade I Bl National Hunt Flat race at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to soft). Previously 11½l 4th of 24 to Mighty Moss in National Hunt Flat race at Nottingham (2m, good to soft). MUMMY'S MOLE 72l last of 9 to Buster Bob in National Hunt Flat race at Warwick (2m, good).
Selection: ST MELLION DRIVE

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Sandown Park

Going: good to soft, heavy in places

2.10 (2m ch) 1, Callisoe Bay (J Osborne, 4-7 fav); 2, Perhaps (13-8); 3, Pennine Pass (25-1). 3 ran. 22l, 4l. O Sherwood. Tote: £1.60. DF: £1.20. CSF: £1.70.

2.45 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Inchcalloch (R Dunwoody, 11-4); 2, Maremma Gale (66-1); 3, Harwell Lad (11-4). Falmouth Bay 13-8 fav (ur). 5 ran. Dist, dist. J King. Tote: £2.50; £1.60, £4.40. DF: £26.50. CSF: £46.10.

3.15 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Norman Conqueror (Major O Ellwood, 4-6 fav); 2, True Steel (9-2); 3, Cool And Easy (17-2). 8 ran. NR: Magsood. 4l, 12l. T Thomson Jones. Tote: £1.70; £1.20, £1.10, £1.80. DF: £2.80. Trio: £5.20. CSF: £3.92.

3.50 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Yorkshire Gale (G Bradley, 11-1); 2, Equity Player (9-2); 3, Arthur's Minstrel (15-8 fav). 5 ran. NR: Cuddy Dale. 5l, 16l. J Gifford. Tote: £9.00; £3.20, £2.10. DF: £19.70. CSF: £50.45.

4.20 (2m ch) 1, Medinas Swan Song (A Tory, 9-4 jt-fav); 2, Society Guest (100-30); 3, Dr Rocket (5-1). Dear Do 9-4 jt-fav. 5 ran. 6l, 9l. R Hodges. Tote: £3.40; £1.80, £2.20. DF: £7.30. CSF: £9.33.

4.50 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Cool Relation (Mr A Phillips, 4-5 fav); 2, Beau Bo's Return (6-1); 3, Social Climber (33-1). 8 ran. NR: Amari King, Halham Tarn, Synderborough Lad, Trust The Gypsy, Windy Ways. 2½l, 27l. D Caro. Tote: £1.90; £1.30, £1.10. £3.60. DF: £6.80. Trio: £92.40. CSF: £6.28.

Placepot: £128.90. Quadpot: £28.20.

Newcastle

Going: good to soft, soft in straight

2.30 (1m) 1, Yeast (R Cochrane, 5-2); 2, Woim (8-15 fav); 3, Green Bopper (11-2). 7 ran. ¾l, 6l. W Haggas. Tote: £3.30; £1.70, £1.20. DF: £1.80. CSF: £4.78.

3.05 (6f) 1, Miletrian Refurb (R Hughes, 6-4 fav); 2, Polar Refrain (8-1); 3, Lucky Bea (20-1). 12 ran. 2½l, 1l. M Channon. Tote: £2.60; £1.20, £2.00, £2.90. DF: £7.60. Trio: £48.50. CSF: £13.77. No bid.

3.35 (3m 19yd) 1, Arian Spirit (L Charnock, 8-1); 2, Top Prize (14-1); 3, Hotspur Street (7-1). Jaraab 11-4 fav. 11 ran. 2l, 2l. J Eyre. Tote: £7.60; £2.60, £7.90, £2.10. DF: £62.70. Trio: £246.90 (part won; pool of £173.89 carried forward to 3.25 at Catterick today). CSF: £101.79. Tricast: £757.22.

4.10 (5f) 1, Stolen Kiss (K Darley, 12-1); 2, Bollin Harry (6-1 jt-fav); 3, Barato (16-1). Captain Carat 11-1 jt-fav. 14 ran. 1l, 1½l. M W Easterby. Tote: £16.30; £3.80, £2.50, £6.80. DF: £58.80. Trio: £537.90 (part won; pool of £45.46 carried forward to 3.25 at Catterick today). CSF: £79.80. Tricast: £1,112.80.

4.40 (5f) 1, Blue Movie (M Fenton, 1-2 fav); 2, I'm Still Here (5-1); 3, Wagga Moon (9-2). 4 ran. ¾l, 9l. M Bell. Tote: £1.40. DF: £1.90. CSF: £3.35.

5.10 (1m 2f 32yd) 1, Astral Weeks (K Fallon, 20-1); 2, Steadfast Elite (10-1); 3, Drummer Hicks (16-1). Gold Desire 13-2 fav. 15 ran. Sh hd, sh hd. L Lungo. Tote: £19.90; £5.50, £3.60, £3.20. DF: £172.10. Trio: £417.20 (part won; pool of £235.04 carried forward to 3.25 at Catterick today). CSF: £195.57. Tricast: £3,010.09.

Placepot: £1,211.90. Quadpot: £812.90 (part won; pool of £999.88 carried forward to Catterick today).

Huntingdon

Going: good to firm

1.50 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Barford Sovereign (P Hide, 11-8 fav); 2, Scamallach (25-1); 3, No Morals (50-1). 13 ran. 6l, dist. J Fanshawe. Tote: £2.10; £1.60, £2.70, £7.70. DF: £26.30. Trio: £139.30. CSF: £27.63.

2.20 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Jimmy's Cross (A P McCoy, Evens fav, Thunderer's nap); 2, Tim (5-1); 3, Clean Edge (5-2). 12 ran. Nk, 22l. G Balding. Tote: £1.90; £1.80, £1.20, £1.30. DF: £3.60. Trio: £2.10. CSF: £6.54.

2.55 (3m 2f hdle) 1, Cats Run (R Supple, 14-1); 2, Ace Player (16-1); 3, Pettaugh (7-1). Henry Cone 7-2 fav. 12 ran. 3l, nk. John R Upson. Tote: £16.60; £2.60, £5.00, £2.10. DF: £180.60. Trio: £175.00. CSF: £189.49. Tricast: £1,554.25.

3.25 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Cond D'Estruval (A P McCoy, 8-1); 2, Donver Bay (13-2); 3, Cross Cannon (7-2). Monerce 3-1 fav. 8 ran. 5l, nk. G Balding. Tote: £8.90; £1.50, £2.40, £1.80. DF: £38.20. CSF: £52.45. Tricast: £195.26.

4.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, The Bounder (J A McCarthy, 16-1); 2, Amaze (4-1 fav); 3, Ps D'Or (14-1); 4, Mr Monarty (6-1). 20 ran. NR: Diddy Rymer, Portscatho. ½l, 16l. O Sherwood. Tote: £20.40; £3.60, £2.20, £3.90, £1.50. DF: £73.20. Trio: £279.70. CSF: £85.97. Tricast: £914.47.

4.30 (3m ch) 1, Grey Smoke (J F Titley, 5-1); 2, Shining Light (7-2); 3, Over The Comb (15-2). Bell Staffboy 5-4 fav. 11 ran. NR: And Why Not. 11l, 27l. Miss H Knight. Tote: £5.00; £2.10, £1.40, £1.50. DF: £9.80. Trio: £10.80. CSF: £22.65.

5.00 (2m 110yd flat race) 1, Marello (G Cahill, 5-1); 2, Scoundrel (10-1); 3, Spring Gale (14-1). Sounds Like Fun 3-1 fav. 22 ran. 3l, hd. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £10.90; £4.70, £2.60, £5.90. DF: £43.10. Trio: not won (pool of £564.55 carried forward to 3.25 at Catterick today). CSF: £75.97.

Jackpot: £158,655.20.

Placepot: £74.30. Quadpot: £61.70.

CATTERICK

THUNDERER

2.20 Queens Check. 2.50 Bargash. 3.25 Peggy Spencer. 4.00 Muchea. 4.30 Windward Ariom. 5.00 Deadline Time.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
2.20 LADY CAROLINE LAMB.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT TOTE JACKPOT MEETING
DRAW: 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.20 SPRINGTIME LIMITED STAKES

(3-Y-O: £2,679: 5f) (9 runners)

101 (1) -341 GENERAL EQUATION 9 (D,G) J Balding 9-0 J Edmunds (7) 82
102 (8) 4102 GI LA HIGH 9 (D,BF,G) J Berry 9-0 P Roberts (5) 94
103 (7) -031 NITEOWL RAIDER 12 (G) J A Harris 9-0 J O'Reilly 98
104 (5) 0605 CHILLAM 39 (B) J Leigh 8-11 D McKeown 78
105 (6) 000- FINISTERRE 137 J J O'Neill 8-11 S D Williams 80
106 (2) 00-6 MONTRESTAR 56 (D,F) P Evans 8-11 S Sanders 89
107 (3) 561- QUEENS CHECK 146 (B,D,S) Miss J Craze 8-11 A McGlone 85
108 (9) 120- APRIL'S JOY 191 (D,F) J Norton 8-8 Dale Gibson 85
109 (4) 26-2 LADY CAROLINE LAMB 6 (D,F) M Channon 8-8 T Quinn [illegible]

2-1 Lady Caroline Lamb, 4-1 General Equation, 5-1 Gi La High, 6-1 Niteowl Raider, 7-1 Montrestar, 8-1 Queens Check, 10-1 others

2.50 FORCETT PARK SELLING STAKES

(£2,553: 7f) (15)

201 (11) 6405 ALLINSON'S MATE 12 (B,C,D,F,G) T Barron 8-9-10 J Fortune 97
202 (1) 050- BARGASH 187 (F) P Evans 4-9-10 S Sanders 86
203 (10) 300- HEATHYARDS MAGIC 212 (G) M Dods 4-9-10 Dale Gibson [illegible]
204 (13) 3223 SPENCER'S REVENGE 9 (D,F,G) N Tinkler 7-9-10 G Carter 96
205 (12) 2223 AWESOME VENTURE 9 (D,S) M Chapman 6-9-6 C Munday 80
206 (7) 240/ BRAMBLES WAY 477J W Barker 7-9-6 F Lynch (5) –
207 (3) 00/4 DESERT LORE 26 (G) Mrs J Ramsden 5-9-6 K Fallon –
208 (4) 50- FRAMED 124 S Williams 6-9-6 M Birch 88
209 (14) 6600 GREAT BEAR 27 (G) D Chapman 4-9-6 A Culhane 90
210 (9) 660- MUSTN'T GRUMBLE 179 (D,F,G) D Nicholls 6-9-6 Alex Greaves 85
211 (5) 0- NUKUD 264 D Nicholls 4-9-6 M Richardson –
212 (8) 050- REED MY LIPS 166J B Baugh 5-9-6 Iona Wands (7) 57
213 (6) 0212 SEA DEVIL 46 (D,BF,F,G,S) M Camacho 10-9-6 L Charnock 89
214 (2) 500- LARRYLUKEATHUGH 196 J J O'Neill 3-8-5 S D Williams 84
215 (15) PARTY POSER B Murray 3-8-0 F Norton –

7-2 Allinson's Mate, 4-1 Spencer's Revenge, 5-1 Sea Devil, 8-1 Bargash, Mustn't Grumble, 10-1 Awesome Venture, 12-1 Larrylukeathugh, Great Bear, 14-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: C Wall, 3 winners from 12 runners, 25.0%; Mrs M Reveley, 22 from 94, 23.4%; M Channon, 6 from 29, 20.7%; Denys Smith, 5 from 27, 18.5%; M Bell, 5 from 27, 18.5%; M Camacho, 4 from 23, 17.4%

JOCKEYS: K Darley, 28 winners from 128 rides, 21.9%; G Duffield, 11 from 73, 15.1%; K Fallon, 10 from 67, 14.9%; Alex Greaves, 5 from 43, 11.6%; M Birch, 12 from 112, 10.7%; J Fortune, 8 from 80, 10.0%

3.25 GODS SOLUTION HANDICAP

(£3,980: 7f) (17)

301 (16) 601- BLUE BOMBER 165 (CD,F,G) T Barron 5-10-0 J Fortune 93
302 (6) 00-0 KNOBBLEENEEZE 5 (V,D,F,G,S) M Channon 6-10-0 R Hughes 92
303 (2) 0-64 ORANGE PLACE 29 (D,G,S) T Naughton 5-9-11 S Sanders 90
304 (5) 100- KID ORY 155 (D,G) P Calver 5-9-8 M Birch 90
305 (10) 000- SPANISH VERDICT 156 (D,F,G,S) Denys Smith 9-9-8 C Teague (5) 93
306 (4) 4310 NASHAAT 26 (D,F,G,S) M Chapman 8-9-6 P McCabe (3) 97
307 (11) 1511 SUPER BENZ 32 (CD,F,G,S) J Eyre 10-9-3 R Lappin 98
308 (8) 3055 EVERSET 28 (B,C,D,F,G,S) A Bailey 8-9-3 D Wright (3) 97
309 (13) 23-6 ZAIN DANCER 68 (D) D Nicholls 4-9-1 Alex Greaves –
310 (17) 445- EVAN 'ELP US 135 (B,D,G) J Eyre 4-9-1 K Darley 89
311 (3) 2014 PEGGY SPENCER 28 (D,G) C Thornton 4-8-13 D McKeown [illegible]
312 (14) 130- MAID O'CANNIE 168 (B,C,F,S) M W Easterby 5-8-12 Dale Gibson 88
313 (9) 100- COMMANDER GLEN 181 (F) Mrs J Ramsden 4-8-11 K Fallon 90
314 (1) 000- ALMASI 153 (G) C Wall 4-8-10 G Duffield 94
315 (15) 000- PENNY'S WISHING 155 (C,G) N Bycroft 4-8-6 L Charnock 97
316 (7) 442- NORTHERN SPARK 106 (D,F,G) Miss L Perratt 8-8-3 J Fanning 94
317 (12) 0-05 JOHNNIE THE JOKER 26 (V,D,F,G) J Leigh 5-8-2 F Lynch (5) 98

5-1 Knobbleeneeze, 6-1 Peggy Spencer, 7-1 Blue Bomber, Super Benz, 8-1 Johnnie The Joker, Nashaat, 12-1 Everset, Kid Ory, Orange Place, 14-1 others

4.00 TOYTOP CONDITIONS STAKES

(2-Y-O: £3,126: 5f) (5)

401 (5) 3 MUCHEA 6 M Channon 8-11 R Hughes –
402 (4) SILVER RAJ W Kemp 8-11 K Fallon –
403 (1) CHILLED WINE N Bycroft 8-6 L Charnock –
404 (2) PERFECT BLISS P Evans 8-6 S Sanders –
405 (3) RED GARTER K McAuliffe 8-6 M Wigham –

4-7 Muchea, 4-1 Silver Raj, 6-1 Perfect Bliss, 8-1 Red Garter, 12-1 Chilled Wine

4.30 YARM HANDICAP (£3,720: 1m 5f 175yd) (13)

501 (5) -060 HILLZAH 35 (D,F,G,S) R Bastiman 8-10-0 H Bastiman (5) 88
502 (1) 0/0- DESERT FIGHTER 112J (F,G) Mrs M Reveley 5-10-0 K Darley –
503 (12) 1200 MENTALASANYTHIN 6 (F,G,S) A Bailey 7-9-2 Angela Gallimore (7) 98
504 (9) 050- ADMIRALS SECRET 177 (CD,F,G) C Wall 7-9-1 W Lord 93
055 (6) 4054 CROSS TALK 18 (CD,F) R Hollinshead 4-8-13 F Lynch (5) 97
506 (11) 00-0 SARAWAT 8 (CD,F,G) D Nicholls 8-8-12 Alex Greaves –
507 (4) 036- HOUSE OF DREAMS 32J G Moore 4-8-10 J Fortune 93
508 (13) 26-4 HULLBANK 68 (D,BF,F) W Haigh 6-8-8 Dale Gibson 93
509 (2) 352- MUZRAK 257 M Hammond 5-8-8 G Duffield 87
510 (8) 400- MARCO MAGNIFICO 32J (D,G,S) T Dyer 6-8-0 J Fanning –
511 (3) 00-0 IN A MOMENT 21J (B,G) T Barron 5-7-10 N Carlisle –
512 (7) 1234 GREEK NIGHT OUT 26 (F,G) J Eyre 5-7-10 P Fessey (5) [illegible]
513 (10) 00/ WINDWARD ARIOM 15J (D,G) K Burke 10-7-10 D Wright (3) –

4-1 Desert Fighter, 5-1 Hullbank, 6-1 Muzrak, 7-1 House Of Dreams, 8-1 Mentalasanythin, Cross Talk, 10-1 Sarawat, 12-1 others

5.00 WHORLTON HANDICAP

(3-Y-O: £3,720: 1m 3f 214yd) (9)

601 (4) 13-2 DEADLINE TIME 6 (S) Mrs M Reveley 9-7 K Darley [illegible]
602 (6) 2243 DANCING CAVALIER 6 (G) R Hollinshead 8-12 F Lynch (5) 98
603 (3) 1032 THORNTOUN ESTATE 25 (G) M Johnston 8-5 D McKeown 94
604 (9) 432- JACKSON PARK 190 T Easterby 8-5 M Birch 84
605 (1) 3-02 OXGANG 26 J Fitzgerald 8-2 J F Egan 92
606 (7) 000- GENERAL GLOW 160 N Bycroft 8-2 L Charnock –
607 (2) 50-0 FOUR WEDDINGS 78 (V) M Bell 7-11 R Mullen (7) 91
608 (8) 6000 CONQUISTAJADE 37 S Woods 7-10 N Carlisle 90
609 (5) 35-0 FERGAL 18 Ronald Thompson 7-10 P Fessey (5) 85

6-4 Deadline Time, 3-1 Dancing Cavalier, 7-2 Thorntoun Estate, 7-1 Jackson Park, 10-1 Oxgang, 14-1 Four Weddings, 16-1 General Glow, 20-1 others.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

2.10 Domak Amaam. 2.45 Durham. 3.20 Greenwich Again. 3.50 Sooty Tern. 4.20 Arlington Lady. 4.50 Colosse.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.10 DOMAK AMAAM (nap). 3.20 Locorotondo. 4.20 Badger Bay.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.10 SAN SEBASTIAN MAIDEN STAKES

(3-Y-O: £3,728: 7f) (6 runners)

1 32- DOMAK AMAAM 149 J Gosden 9-0 G Hind 5
2 00- GO WITH THE WIND 183 M Bell 9-0 M Fenton 1
3 VICTORY BOUND M Johnston 9-0 J Weaver 3
4 0 LUCITINO 21 S Williams 8-9 J Tate 4
5 0- SHEILAS DREAM 156 R Simpson 8-9 S Drowne (3) 2
6 6- WAYPOINT 168 R Charlton 8-9 T Sprake 6

1-2 Domak Amaam, 4-1 Victory Bound, 7-1 Waypoint, 8-1 Go With The Wind, 16-1 Lucitino, 25-1 Sheilas Dream.

2.45 VIGO CLAIMING STAKES (£2,595: 2m) (8)

1 0-14 ALLEZ CYRANO 13 (F,G,S) M Bell 5-9-6 M Fenton 8
2 0460 CAPTAIN MARMALADE 6 (V,C,G) D Thom 7-8-12 J Tate 2
3 00 SUSSEX GORSE 13 (B) B Pearce 5-8-12 A Daly (5) 5
4 0/5- WELL SUITED 446 T Hind 6-8-12 D Harrison 7
5 10-2 HARLEQUIN WALK 34 (C,G) R O'Sullivan 5-8-11 D Biggs 3
6 /16 JULIASDARKINVADER 27 (CD,G) A Moore 6-8-8 A Clark 6
7 3-04 DURHAM 26 (V) R Simpson 5-8-6 S Drowne (3) 1
8 4520 ZUNO FLYER 21 (V) A Moore 4-8-3 A Whelan (3) 4

5-2 Allez Cyrano, 3-1 Harlequin Walk, 7-2 Durham, 6-1 Captain Marmalade, 7-1 Juliasdarkinvader, 10-1 Zuno Flyer, 16-1 Well Suited, 25-1 Sussex Gorse

3.20 BILBAO LIMITED STAKES (£2,667: 1m 2f) (6)

1 3-01 NO SPEECHES 74 (CD,G) S Dow 5-9-4 A Daly (5) 5
2 165- SPITFIRE BRIDGE 112 (CD,F,G) M McCormack 4-9-4 R Cochrane 6
3 5414 TUIGAMALA 13 (C,F,G) R Ingram 5-9-4 W Woods 2
4 2051 ERRANT 32 (C,G) D Cosgrove 4-9-2 J Quinn 4
5 0414 GREENWICH AGAIN 29 (C,BF,F,G) T Mills 4-9-2 J Weaver 1
6 60-0 LOCOROTONDO 58 (CD,F,G,S) M Bell 5-8-11 M Fenton 3

5-2 No Speeches, 3-1 Greenwich Again, 4-1 Errant, 9-2 Locorotondo, 6-1 Spitfire Bridge, 7-1 Tuigamala

3.50 LIMA HANDICAP (£3,179: 1m) (10)

1 06-2 VICTORY TEAM 27 G Balding 4-9-10 R Cochrane 2
2 3011 FORT KNOX 4 (B,CD,F,G) R Flower 5-9-10 (5ex) D Biggs 9
3 005- WAIKIKI BEACH 123 (D,F,G) G L Moore 5-9-6 S Whitworth 8
4 3604 LABUDD 27 (B,CD,G) R Ingram 6-9-0 W Woods 1
5 -541 SARUM 13 (CD,F,G) C Wildman 10-8-13 C Rutter 4
6 00-4 SOOTY TERN 12 (CD,F,G,S) J Bradley 9-8-11 S Drowne (3) 5
7 0-30 DANTEAN 27 (BF) R O'Sullivan 4-8-5 J Quinn 3
8 000- AUTUMN COVER 142 R Flower 4-8-3 G Hind 10
9 0202 WOOLVERSTONE HALL 25 (B) D Murray Smith 4-7-10 N Adams 6
10 0-04 MAGIC LEADER 30 T Clement 4-7-10 G Bardwell 7

5-2 Fort Knox, 3-1 Victory Team, 9-2 Sarum, 5-1 Labudd, 8-1 Waikiki Beach, Sooty Tern, 12-1 Dantean, 14-1 others

4.20 SANTANDER HANDICAP

(3-Y-O: £2,595: 6f) (8)

1 0-24 YOUNG MAZAAD 2 D O'Brien 9-7 G Bardwell 2
2 3532 SUNSET HARBOUR 32 (B) T Naughton 9-6 R Cochrane 6
3 2425 DANCING JACK 29 (C,G) J Bridger 9-3 J Quinn 3
4 3326 ROWLANDSONS STUD 13 G L Moore 9-1 Dane O'Neill (5) 4
5 -424 BADGER BAY 25 C Dwyer 9-0 J Stack (3) 7
6 000- BURJ 182 N Graham 8-5 D Harrison 5
7 300- ARLINGTON LADY 167 (D,F) N Callaghan 8-0 M Henry (5) 1
8 0-05 ZUNO PRINCESS 36 T Powell 7-10 M Baird (5) 8

11-4 Sunset Harbour, 4-1 Arlington Lady, 6-1 Young Mazaad, Badger Bay, 7-1 Burj, Dancing Jack, 8-1 Rowlandsons Stud, 16-1 Zuno Princess.

4.50 SANTIAGO HANDICAP (£3,070: 1m 4f) (5)

1 6-46 BAG OF TRICKS 38 (CD,G) S Dow 6-9-10 A Daly (5) 2
2 355/ READY TO DRAW 16J (F,G,S) R O'Sullivan 7-8-11 D Biggs 4
3 -013 COLOSSE 29 (CD,G) J Eyre 4-8-8 J Quinn 1
4 0-00 PERSIAN HAZE 14J (B,S) B McMath 7-8-5 G Bardwell 5
5 -600 TELEPHUS 21J (B,CD,F,G) B McMath 7-7-10 N Adams 3

5-4 Colosse, 6-4 Bag Of Tricks, 5-1 Ready To Draw, 8-1 Telephus, 16-1 Persian Haze

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Gosden, 7 winners from 21 runners, 33.3%; S Williams, 5 from 21, 23.8%; N Graham, 8 from 40, 20.0%; M Bell, 6 from 30, 20.0%; D Murray-Smith, 12 from 64, 18.8%; R O'Sullivan, 48 from 277, 17.3%.

JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 65 winners from 290 rides, 22.4%; R Cochrane, 50 from 300, 16.7%; S Whitworth, 23 from 148, 15.5%; D Harrison, 29 from 203, 13.8%; W Woods, 16 from 132, 12.1%; J Tate, 7 from 66, 10.6%

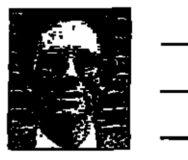
DES JENSON

Oxford make light of choppy water on the Tideway yesterday in an impressive warm-up for the University Boat Race on April 6 (Mike Rosewell writes). They overhauled a London University crew containing six internationals in a race to the Mile when, aided by good steering from Todd Kristol, the American, they produced a change in pace that took a full length from London in some 50 strokes. Oxford completed the distance in 3min 52sec. It was a heartening performance for Penny Chuter, the chief coach, and Dan Topolski, the finishing coach. The stern pair, Paul Berger and Adam Frost, the stroke, shone. "They are beginning to find some real pace now," Topolski said.

John Snagge obituary, page 21

Leading athletes will reap benefits of new circuit to rival World Cup

Old order fights triathlon revolution



David Powell on the latest sport to face a struggle for control of its destiny

Simon Lessing and Spencer Smith, his predecessor as world champion, are among a group of leading triathletes who have signed for a new world circuit that will rival the International Triathlon Union (ITU) World Cup. It could make Lessing the sport's first millionaire with Smith, his fellow Briton, not far behind.

The International Triathlon Grand Prix will involve 25 of the world's best men in a ten-race series for a first prize understood to be $25,000 (about £16,500) at each event. Second place would earn $20,000, with $15,000 for third. Hitherto, World Cup prize-money has been loose change by comparison, although the fund this year has been substantially increased.

The grand prix is expected to run from July to December and appearance money has also been promised. Brad Beven, the World Cup winner for the past three years, Mike Pigg, Mark Allen and Greg Welch have also signed, which means that the grand prix has scooped the world's top six.

Lessing, who holds both ITU world titles, long and standard distance, has doubled his income from sponsorship deals since his victories. Because his sport involves three disciplines — swimming, cycling and running — he can endorse a greater range of products. He has deals with at least ten sponsors.

The grand prix is being launched by The World Series Triathlon Corporation, a Sydney-based organisation. According to Andrew Fraser, its public relations manager, "positive discussions" have been taking place with the ITU with a view to the grand prix receiving world governing body approval. The ITU disagrees.

Les McDonald, the ITU president, said: "There are no discussions with us at all. We see this as a rather noxious development." McDonald said that he had sent the following advisory to his board members: "There is no agreement, or understanding, or communication, with [between] ITU and On Line [now renamed The World Series Triathlon Corporation]. They are promoting a world series in opposition to the ITU World Cup. The ITU is opposed to self-declared world events promoted by private interest bodies posing as recognised world organisations."

The ITU, which has succeeded in getting triathlon on the Olympic programme for Sydney in 2000, is facing its greatest crisis. As one negotiator said: "Now the athletes have the power."

Lessing, Smith, Welch, Allen, Pigg and Beven have been keeping in contact from their training bases. Ultimately, this may lead to athletes who go with the grand prix jeopardising their participation in the Olympics. McDonald is adamant that ITU events will be the qualification route, but it would make a mockery of the sport's Olympic debut if the big names were excluded.

"These athletes should be forewarned that, if they are going to be part of a rebel series which is competing with their own national federations, and the international federation, and if they do not compete in the ITU events, they will not find themselves going to the Olympics," McDonald said. The ITU could, however, issue wild cards as for the world championships.

One attempt at bringing the athletes into line has failed almost before it started. The ITU has revoked the World Cup and world championships ban that it introduced only last November on athletes who compete in events portraying themselves as world championships, notably the Hawaii Ironman triathlon. McDonald denied that the move was a response to the threat of legal action.

The grand prix is especially untimely for the ITU because, only last month, it signed a deal with Pacific Sports and Entertainment (PSE), a Brisbane-based company, which, McDonald said, "will guarantee $1 million prize-money in 1996". PSE's main shareholder is The News Corporation, parent company of *The Times*.

The World Series Triathlon Corporation has, for the past three years, staged a successful five-race grand prix series in Australia, involving Smith, Beven and Welch. Adam Bray, the corporation's managing director, described it as "a made-for-television series, held at resort venues" featuring "multilooped drafting races that produce well for a live television programme".

The world circuit no doubt will follow the same format. Ironically, it is a style of racing that McDonald favours. The Corporation says that it is anxious not to put a branch in the sport's spokes. "We do not want to be perceived as a rebel series," Fraser said. "What we are doing is for the betterment of the sport. The profile of triathlon will go through the roof when people see what we are doing."

Smith: former holder

Lessing: world champion

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 43

CHINESE BARRAGE

(c) During the First World War, a practice grew up, especially during the latter days, of delivering a barrage directed at one sector with no infantry to follow up. The actual assault was made in a neighbouring sector without artillery support. This was no sillier than announcing that an assault was imminent by a barrage that neither cut the enemy barbed wire nor silenced the machine guns. A British Blackadder idea, based on the notion that the Chinese were damned tricky.

BICORNE

(b) A military hat of the 18th and early 19th centuries. It had two corners, unlike the Tricorne, which had three. The Duke of Wellington wore his fore and aft. Napoleon preferred to wear his sideways, ear to ear, so looking a little odd as well as sinister to English eyes. Not to be confused with the mythical beast *bicorne*, fabled by early French romancers to grow fat through eating good and patient husbands. Its antetype was the *chichevache*, which fed on good women, and was, accordingly, mere skin and bone because it never got anything to eat.

BLACK BOB

(c) Major-General Robert Crawford commanded the Light Division in the Peninsular War. Though a martinet, he was liked by his men, because he was careful with their lives except when flogging them, and was known affectionately as Black Bob. He died at the head of his men, leading the charge that took Ciudad Rodrigo early in 1812.

WIMPY

(a) The Wellington medium bomber was affectionately known to the RAF in Word War II as a Wimpy. This was nothing to do with hamburgers, which were unknown in Great Britain, but an eponym of a fictitious cartoon character called J. Wellington Wimpy.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Qh5+! Nxh5; 2. fxe6+ Kg6; 3. Bc2+ Kg5; 4. Rf5+ Kg6 (4. ... Kg4; 5. h3+ leads to a quick mate); 5. Rf6+ Kg5; 6. Rg6+ Kh4; 7. Re4+ Nf4; 8. Rxf4+ Kh5; 9. g3 and mate with Rh4 follows.

WE ARE NOW OFFERING READERS OF THE TIMES FREE DELIVERY OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW AT STANDARD RETAIL PRICE — OFFER EXTENDED TO INCLUDE EUROPE — REST OF WORLD ADD £1 PER ITEM — STERLING OR US$ CHEQUES ONLY — (£1 = $US 1.50).

TIMES CROSSWORDS: — Books 6, 10 to 13 £3.99 each; Books 14 to 19 £3.50 each. The Times Concise — Book 2 (240 puzzles) £5.99; Books 3 to 6 £3.50 each. The Times Two — Book 3 £2.99. SUNDAY TIMES CROSSWORDS: Books 10, 11, 12 £3.50 each. The Sunday Times Concise Books 1, 2, 3 £3.50 each. Special offer: Any five books above for only £15. The Times Crosswords Omnibus & Jumbo Books 1 and 2 £4.99 each. THE TIMES MAPS (folded): JUST £4.99 EACH — The World, Ireland, British Isles, Canada, New Europe, North America, South America, Africa, China.

Send cheques with order payable to Akom Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London, SE13 5QW. Delivery up to eight days (UK). Tel: 0181-852 4575 (24hrs). No credit cards.

FOR THE RECORD

BOWLS

ADELAIDE: Men's world championships: Singles: Group A: J Riveros (Arg) bt F T Amituanai (W Sam) 25-6; A Allcock (Eng) bt O Fowler (Ken) 25-17; N Kennedy (HK) bt T Mathai (Thai) 25-13; Riveros bt Fowler 25-16; Allcock bt Amituanai 25-9; P Matailevu (Fiji) bt Mathai 25-18; Allcock bt Amituanai 25-9, Matailevu bt Mathai 25-18; Allcock bt Mathai 25-9; Amituanai bt Matailevu 25-19; Kennedy bt Fowler 25-16. Group B: R Corsie (Scot) bt P Knight (Br) 25-9, J Quenpel (Guer) bt B Wilson (Norfolk Island) 25-10; S Allen (Ire) bt J L van Deventer (Zam) 26-16; R Brassey (NZ) bt Knight 25-8, Quenpel bt Knight 25-21; Allen bt R Brassey (NZ) 25-9; Corsie bt Wilson 25-22; A Thomas (Swaz) bt Van Deventer 25-14 ; Van Deventer bt Knight 25-20; Quenpel bt Thomas 25-17; Corsie bt Allen 25-17; Brassey bt Wilson 25-5. Group C: A Hicks (Botswana) bt M Gilliland (Can) 25-24, J Rabkin (Isr) bt Z Baba (Malaysia) 25-9; J P Pomaleu (PNG) bt D Calitz (Nam) 25-22: N Burkett (SA) bt Hon Yoong Chai (Sing) 25-10; Hicks bt Pomaleu 25-24; Gilliland bt Calitz 25-19; Burkett bt Rabkin 25-23; Baba bt Hon 25-18, Rabkin bt Hicks 25-24; Gilliland bt Baba 25-7; Calitz bt Hon 25-8, Burkett bt Pomaleu 25-13. Group D: K Karkow (Aus) bt M McCormick (Zim) 25-19; J Price (Wales) bt D Le Marquand (Jer) 25-21; P Shaw (Malawi) bt T Dion (US) 25-14. Karkow bt Le Marquand 25-17. M P Totoo (Cook Islands) bt Shaw 25-18; McCormick bt Price 25-20; Le Marquand bt Totoo 25-14; Karkow bt Shaw 25-15, McCormick bt Dion 25-11. Fours: Group A: Australia bt Cook Islands 34-12; Ireland bt Jersey 25-21. Scotland bt Malawi 33-12. Zimbabwe bt Singapore 22-14. Group B: Canada bt Brazil 26-11; Hong Kong bt Namibia 21-17; New Zealand bt Papua New Guinea 30-10. Group C: Botswana bt Kenya 31-14; England bt Guernsey 27-14; Malaysia bt Thailand 22-15; South Africa bt Swaziland 27-24. Group D: Fiji bt Argentina 24-23; United States bt Zambia 23-18; Wales bt Western Samoa 48-7.

FOOTBALL

Monday's late results

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Southampton 1 Coventry City 0.

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: Third division: Doncaster Rovers 0 Mansfield 0

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Dagenham and Redbridge 0 Bath 1; Hednesford 2 Stevenage 1.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Winsford 4 Barrow 3.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Worcester 1 Sudbury 1

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division:: Chelsea 2 Brighton 2; Millwall 3 Bristol City 1; Oxford United 0 Watford 2; Swindon 1 West Ham 1; Tottenham 4 Crystal Palace 0.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Birmingham City 5 Sheffield United 1; Blackburn 4 West Bromwich 0; Wolverhampton 4 Liverpool 0. Second division: Port Vale 5 Grimsby 3

JEWSON LEAGUE CUP: Final: Fakenham 2 Swaffham 1.

GOLF

SUNNINGDALE: Sunningdale foursomes; First round: G Torbett and J Leaver (Chipstead) bt W Grant (W Berkshire) and N Burke (Horsham Park) 2 holes; W Henry (John Hill Ltd) and A Clapp (A1 Driving Range) bt T Milford (The Ridge) and R McGuirk (Prince's) at 19th; B Gallacher and J Gallacher (Wentworth) bt K Ferrie and I Ferrie (Alnmouth) at 19th; M Roberts and I Campbell (Sunningdale) bt C Bushell (Piltdown) and D Newnham (Crowborough Beacon) 2 and 1; R Lee (Royal Mid Surrey) and R Winchester (PGAET) bt D Quinney (Haverhill) and M Allen (unatt) 6 and 5; G Stewart (Sotogrande) and J Forbes (Scot) bt C Mattinson and N Johnson (Perth) 3 and 2; T Charnley (unatt) and D Charlton (Tilworth) bt C Hawkes and P Eady (Brookmans Park) 6 and 4. S McCarthy and M Evans (Royal North Devon) bt I Rowlands and T Davis (Old Padeswood) 1 hole; J Bennett (Pyrford) and H Stott (Laleham) bt A Clark (Old Fold Manor) and N Lawrence (A1 Golf) 1 hole; R Boxall (Chobham) and D Cooper (Birchwood) bt C Stewart and J Collier (Walton Heath) 2 and 1, C Tucker and S Mantell (Mannings Heath) bt S Defoy (Coombe Hill) and S Norman (Richmond) 3 and 2; D Watt and B Sandry (Broome Manor) bt G Hunt and N Stephens (Hartsbourne) 4 and 3, N Job and O St-G Browne (Richmond) bt S Dyson and S Robinson (Malton) 1 hole; K Douglas (Long Ashton) and J Soulsby (Prudhoe) bt G Potter (Royal Norwich) and K Kelsall (Sweetwoods) 3 and 2, S Geary and C Duffy (Maidenhead) bt J Wilshire (Hindhead) and P Sefton (Pine Ridge) 2 and 1; I Parker and M Thompson (Ferndown) bt J Davies (Morlais Castle) and N English (Milford) 3 and 2; J Speight (unatt) and M Payne (Brickenden) w o V Phillips (Stoke Poges) and M Newman (Lambourn) scr; N Mitchell and S Mitchell (Donnington V) w o P Sherman (Ashford) and L Batchelor (Rochester) scr; L Donald (Beaconsfield) and M O'Connor (Stoke Poges) bt D Craik and L Jackson (Frilford Heath) at 19th; D Fleming and S Stevenson (Turnberry Hotel) bt R Misra (Sunningdale) and T Higgins (Hill Barn) at 19th; I Naylor and D Strachan (East Sussex National) bt L Richardson and P Adams (Worcester) 3 and 2; A Raitt and A Morganti (St George's Hill) bt K Maxwell and J Carr (Sunningdale) 1 hole; G Evans and S Nightingale (Worthing) bt G Shoesmith (West Hill) and B White (Sutton Green) 5 and 3; M King (Sunningdale) and C Mason (PGAET) bt R Dickman (Banstead Downs) and M Kirby (Purley Downs) 8 and 7; J Hay and M Savory (Waterlooville) bt P Morley (Reading) and B Reid (Wisley) 3 and 2; R Hurst and T Paterson (Leatherhead) bt A Carter (Lincoln) and G Stafford (Burton on Trent) 3 and 2; J Little (Moor Park) and C Duke (Porters Park) bt N Connolly and S Edwards (Warwickshire) 1 hole; J Challen (Oliva Nova, Sp) and C Challen (Stoke Poges) bt D Sinclair and D Rigby (Bowood) 3 and 2; S Moon (Cross Rent-a-Tipper) and A Brewer (Denham) bt A McLean and K Millar (Duddingston) 4 and 3; B Barham (Lydd) and P Stuart (London) bt M Foster (Worksop) and G Harris (Broome Manor) 4 and 3; W Bladen and G Jenkins (Kenilworth) bt A Wall and S Griffiths (Unatt) at 21st; D Hamilton and S Fox (Badway Park) bt J Bragler (Lees Hall) and L Horsman (Beauchief) 2 and 1; J Doherty (Worthing) and N Reilly (Surbiton) bt C Defoy and W Defoy (Coombe Hill) 4 and 3; S Hodge and L Roberts (Home Park) bt S Baguley (Sunningdale) and J Weir (Lambourn) 1 hole; K Stables (Montrose) and A Webster (Edzell) bt C Maroney and I Reay (Bolton Old Links) 3 and 2; C Rodgers (Royal Mid Surrey) and P Casey (Burhill) bt T Craik and D King (Frilford Heath) 6 and 5; A Good and R Summerscales (Foxhills) bt K Dickens and S Sharpe (Northampton) 5 and 4; S Martin and B Porter (Burnham and Berrow) bt J Harris and S Wood (Moatlands) 2 holes; S Chapman and K Godfrey (St Enodoc) bt L Ficking and M Deal (Enfield) 5 and 4; P Wesselingh (Hawkstone Park) and R Latham (Porters Park) bt D Longmuir (Sunningdale) and C Nelson (St Andrews Univ) 4 and 3; P Thomas (Dunham Forest) and N Scanlon (Arrowe Park) bt C Griffiths and K Mercer (The Vale) 2 and 1; J Morgan (Forest Pines) and M Landrum (Royal Liverpool) bt M Devetta (Sunningdale) and D Paton (Dunnikier Park) 6 and 5; J Hesley (Unatt) and D Jagger (Hull) bt J Brant (The Berkshire) and M Briggs (Stoke Poges) 1 hole; L James (Broadstone) and S McDonagh (Tracy Park) bt G Cooke (Dartford) and D Curtis (Rusley Park) 4 and 3; L Jones and C Laurence (Manor of Groves) bt R Hunter and G Leshford (Malden) 5 and 4; G Ross and M Carmichael (Greenock) bt A Robertson (Sunningdale) and S Barr (London Scottish) 1 hole; J Chillas (Glenbervie) and M Gray (Ladybank) bt D Peach (Stoke Poges) and P Robshaw (Farnham Park) 1 hole; D Boxall (Addington Palace) and J Smith (Burhill) bt I Pearce (Fernhill Artisans) and P Young (Windlesham) 5 and 4.

MODERN PENTATHLON

UNIVERSITY MATCH: Men: Cambridge 28,813pts Oxford 27,727. Individual: 1, J Dixon (Cambridge) 5,287; 2, J Whetman (Cambridge) 5,154; 3, E Egan (Oxford) 5,055. Women: Cambridge 24,524 Oxford 23,056 Individual: J Allen (Cambridge) 5,604.

RUGBY UNION

FRENCH CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool one: Toulouse 41 Racing 20; Grenoble 26 Narbonne 12; Nîmes 19 Toulon 19; Nice 14 Perpignan 10; Bayonne 16 Agen 30. Pool two: Castres 21 Pau 13; Montferrand 22 Bourgoin 15; Bègles-Bordeaux 35 Colomiers 3; Brive 41 Rumilly 17; Dax 41 Montpellier 7.

SPEEDWAY

CHALLENGE MATCHES: Reading 11 Swindon 13 (abandoned after four heats); Wolverhampton 57 Cradley Heath and Stoke 37.

TENNIS

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida: Lipton championships (US unless stated): Men: Third round: S Lareau (Can) bt A Costa (Sp) 6-3, 6-7; S Edberg (Swe) bt N Pereira (Ven) 6-4, 6-2; A Agassi (US) bt J-P Fleurian (Fr) 6-2, 4-6, 6-2; M Rosset (Switz) bt T Woodbridge (Aus) 7-5, 5-7, 7-6; M Joyce (Aus) bt D Nainkin (SA) 6-0, 6-2. M Tebbutt (Aus) bt H Dreekmann (Ger) 6-2, 6-3; A Boetsch (Fr) bt M Washington 6-3, 6-4; J Courier bt B Black (Zim) 7-6, 6-0 Women: Fourth round: A Huber (Ger) bt J Wiesner (Austria) 6-4, 6-4; K Date (Japan) bt S Farina (It) 6-2, 6-2; C Rubin bt N Tauziat (Fr) 6-3, 6-4; G Sabatini (Arg) bt J Capriati 6-1, 6-4. L Davenport bt A Grossman 6-0, 6-2; K Habsudova (Slovakia) bt J Halard-Decugis (Fr) 1-6, 6-4, 6-4; I Spirlea (Rom) bt A Sugiyama (Japan) 6-4, 7-5; S Graf (Ger) bt M J Fernandez 6-1, 6-0.

CASABLANCA: Men's tournament: First round: R Fromberg (Aus) bt J Golmard (Fr) 6-0, 6-4; J Novak (Cz) bt S Noszaly (Hun) 6-1, 6-2; F Maggi (It) bt K Goossens (Bel) 3-6, 6-3, 6-4; F Mantilla (Sp) bt R Carretero (Sp) 6-4, 6-2; C Moya (Sp) bt B Ulihrach (Cz) 7-5, 6-0

SHEFFIELD: Rover Junior Masters: Finals: Boys: J Nelson (Northumberland) bt L Childs (Somerset) 6-2, 6-3. Girls: H Reesby (Notts) beat S Gregg (Yorkshire) 6-2, 6-0.

RADIO CHOICE

Best possible way to finish

The Fifties: Candide. *Radio 3, 7.30pm.*

Not with a whimper but with a resounding bang, Radio 3's season reflecting well nigh every phase of life in the 1950s ends tonight. This is a concert version of Leonard Bernstein's 1956 stage musical *Candide*. As all the world should know by now, Voltaire's satirical novel is about a hopeless optimist (Karl Daymond) and his search for the girl (Rebecca Caine) who has been seized as war booty. It must be the only musical in history that is fuelled by the philosophy — dispensed tonight by Ron Moody's Pangloss — that "all is for the best in the best of possible worlds". What is more, it even has a hit song that trumpets his Leibnitzian doctrine.

The Afternoon Shift. *Radio 4, 3.00pm.*

Cinema history describes instances galore of actors who, having scored a success in one role, were not allowed subsequently to shake off the image. Think of the early years of Errol Flynn, swashbuckler *sans pareil*. Think of the virginal wholesomeness of Doris Day. Think also of Christopher Lee. In *Exorcising Ghosts*, the first of four *Afternoon Shift* features about showbusiness and sports personalities who did their honest best to free themselves of typecasting, Lee recounts how he spent 14 years playing Dracula and other monsters from both sides of the grave. What he calls his "graveyard period" stopped him from winning the roles that he most coveted.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Clive Warren **6.30** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, incl at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat and at **1.15** the Net **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, incl at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat, and **6.15** the Net **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Radio Tip Top **10.00** Mark Lamarr **Midnight** Wendy Lloyd, incl at **12.15am** The Net

RADIO 2

FM Stereo **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Brian Matthew, incl at **10.00** Pick of the Hits **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Debbie Thrower **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2 **8.00** The Richard Thompson Story **8.30** Leaders Tapes **9.00** Cajun Clubhouse **9.30** Nigel Ogden **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00-6.00am** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, incl **6.55**, **7.55** racing preview **8.35** The Magazine **11.30** Wildlife News **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl at **12.34pm** Moneycheck; and at **1.15** Entertainment News **2.05** Ruscoe On Five **4.30** Nationwide with Julian Worricker, incl at **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** sport **7.35** Gary Lineker's International Football NightEngland v Bulgaria **10.05** News Talk with Jeremy Vine **11.00** Night Extra, incl at **11.15** Financial World Tonight **12.05am** After Hours **2.05** Up All Night, with *Rhod Sharp*

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Warr **7.00** Simon Bates **10.00** Jonathan King **12.00** Tommy Boyd **2.00pm** Anna Raeburn **4.00** Scott Chisholm **7.00** Sean Bolger **9.00** Moz Dee **10.00** James Whale **1.00-6.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT**. **5.00am** Newsday **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** World News **7.15** Off the Shelf **7.30** Discovery **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Thirty-Minute Drama **8.45** Making It Up **9.00** News in German **9.15** Andy Kershaw **9.45** Sport **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Off the Shelf **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Meridian **12.00** News **12.05pm** Business **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Composer of the Month **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Megamix **3.00** News in German **3.15** The Greenfield Collection **4.00** World News **4.15** World Today **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business Report **5.45** Sports **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** News in German **7.00** News Summary **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Words of Faith **7.30** Multitrack: X-Press **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Dear Diary **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** The World Today **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.10** Pop Short **11.15** Sport **11.45** From Our Own Correspondent **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Making It Up **12.45** Britain **1.00** News **1.10** Press **1.15** New Ideas **1.35** A Day in the Life of an Insect **1.45** Country Style **2.00** Newsday **2.30** Sport **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Assignment **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** *Europe Today*

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Mike Read **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata **7.00** Classic Gardening Forum (r) **8.00** Evening Concert **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** *Richard Skinner* **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyte **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00-6.00am** *Robin Banks*

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Vivaldi (Violin Concerto in E minor, Op 6 No 5); Beethoven (Piano Sonata in D Op 28, Pastorale); Monteverdi (Magnificat a 8); Delius (Brigg Fair, An English Rhapsody); Handel (Recorder Sonata in C, HWV 365); Franz Strauss (Horn Concerto)

9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 4 in G, BWV 1049); Stravinsky (Piano Sonata); Grieg (Piano Concerto in A minor)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Nicola Heywood Thomas. *Artist of the Week*: Kathryn Stott, piano, Schubert (Impromptu No 3 in B flat, D938) **10.10** Haydn (String Quartet in C, H III 45); Rachmaninov (Spring Waters, Op 14 No 11); Brahms (Piano Quintet in F minor); **11.30** Dieupart (Concerto in A minor); Beethoven (15 Variations and a Fugue on an Original Theme in E flat)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Rubbra, presented by Roderic Dunnett

1.00pm Concert Hall. Live from the Wigmore Hall in London. Joaquin Achucarro, piano, plays Brahms (Six Pieces, Op 118); Schumann (Symphonic Studies, Op13)

2.00 Schools Together **2.20** Time and Tune **2.40** Drama Workshop

3.00 Midweek Choice. Includes Telemann (Oboe Concerto in E flat); Massenet (Méditation)

4.00 Choral Evensong. Live from Salisbury Cathedral

5.00 The Music Machine

5.15 In Tune. Includes, Rachmaninov, orch Stokowski (Prelude in C sharp minor, Op 3 No 2) **6.03** Gershwin (Cuban Overture); Fibich (At Twilight)

7.30 Candide. See Choice

10.30 Shostakovich v Bach. Bach (Prelude and Fugue in E minor, Book II No 10); Shostakovich (Prelude and Fugue in E minor, Op 87)

10.45 Night Waves. Richard Cole *reviews* Tim Robbins's new film *Dead Man Walking*

11.30-12.30am Voices. The first of two programmes featuring Thomas Quasthoff, *baritone*, at the Wigmore Hall

RADIO 4

6.00am News **6.10** Farming **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **7.25**, **8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Midweek

10.00 News; The Trade Rag (FM only)

10.00 Daily Service (LW only)

10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)

10.30 Woman's Hour

11.30 Gardeners' Question Time

12.00 News; You and Yours

12.25pm Maugham's Eye View. A friendly game of bridge reveals a sinister secret **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One

1.40 The Archers 1.55 Shipping

2.00 News; Young PC, by Mark Davies Markham. With Julia Ford (2/3)

2.45 Treasure Islands, with Michael Rosen

3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift. See Choice

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope

4.45 Short Story: The Scent of Oranges, by Ann Swinfen.

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 Counterpoint (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 20/20: A View of the Century. John Tusa concludes his personal perspective on the last 100 years

8.05 Out of the Fire. John Simpson profiles Nan Divi, a wealthy Cambodian landowner who became a slave of the Khmer Rouge (r)

8.35 True Encounters. Search for the Dreamer. Starring Henry Goodman as psychiatrist Dr Irvin Yalom (5/6)

9.00 Costing the Earth, with Mark Whittaker

9.30 Kaleidocope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Picnic at Hanging Rock (8/10) (r)

11.00 Fab TV. Curtis and Ballard (Deceased) by Neil Mullarkey and John Irwin (3/4)

11.30 Paradise Lost in Space (FM only) by Colin Swash (4/6) (r)

11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)

12.00 News incl **12.27am** Weather

12.30 The Late Book: Metroland (8/10)

12.48 Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO UK.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson**

Tonight on BBC2 at 7.30pm, new kids on the glock.

BBC The Percussion Final. BBC Young Musicians '96 Events. Lloyds Bank

Lethargy, laughter and lightning, all right?

REVIEW

Lynne Truss

Addicted as I am to symbolic unity in an evening's television, I was naturally chuffed to bits when last night culminated in ITV's unmissable *Savage Skies*. It concerned tornados in America, you see: people stood and watched helpless while churning clouds advanced towards them, a dark umbilical cord sucking and destroying, its vortex whipping with winds of 200 miles an hour. As one tornado twisted through a geranium greenhouse in Wichita, the funnel of mad air turned visibly pink. So what is the symbolic link with such programmes as *And the Beat Goes On*? Well, you can see it coming, that's what.

And the Beat Goes On (Channel 4) has been unluckily named, I feel. The title suggests tedium. But the most unfortunate thing about this peculiarly lifeless period *Brookside* is the complete lack of action and surprise. Bored by the current goings-on, you scan the horizon for the next event, and then monitor its slow but inevitable advance, sometimes consulting your watch. After two weeks — which we should remember equals two hours of a viewer's life for ever lost — no scene has actually required dialogue to put it across. Rendered silently or in Portuguese, the action would be equally comprehensible. Christine — raven-haired middle-class English student — has at last discovered that Lawrentian lover Jack is not truly working-class, but only putting on an act for purposes of romantic advancement. Gosh, is this really true? Well, I'll go to the foot of our stairs.

After last week's review, in which I stated with unfounded confidence that the street of terraced houses was a set borrowed from Dennis Potter's *Lipstick on Your Collar*, a spokesman from Mersey TV phoned up to object: this was a real street over which much care had been taken. The same sort of care has been taken, I suppose, to remind us of authentic 1960 phraseology — "Are you all right?" "No, he's half left" — but it doesn't add up to much. The real tragedy is that *And the Beat* has none of the vitality, the sheer style of real 1960s film-making. Our forgettable hero, Ritchie, is a pudding on legs who occasionally scowls at the poor hand life has dealt him, and reminds us of bodily functions such as masturbation. Jenny Agutter is the best thing in it, and all credit to her. She is hoeing a lonely row.

Symptomatic of the malaise of *And the Beat* is that whenever attention turns to Mr Spencer's factory, there is no work going on. People gossip in pairs, or lean over banisters, as though about to burst into song. There is no noise of production, although Mr Spencer (Stephen Moore) looks quite satisfied when he watches the shopfloor from his office window. Full employment probably has something to do with this. We must blame Supermac.

How different is the leisure centre in **The Brittas Empire** (BBC1). And how unfair of the Almighty that the writers of *Brittas* can have eight distinct zingy ideas for a single half-hour episode, while *And the Beat* takes a borrowed one with weak elastic, and stretches it over eight hours, so thinly that you can see through it to the tubes in the telly. Farce requires endless invention, and in *The Brittas Empire*, yes, you can see things coming, but that's the point: *they know you can*. Each plot line last night — a Casanova doppelganger for Mr Brittas; a misconceived marketing drive; Colin's herbal medicine; the deputation from the Church of Chattanooga; a bear loose in the carpark — was obviously leading *somewhere*, but it was impossible to predict exactly where.

The Brittas Empire is on top form. Each week it hits the ground running. Harriet Thorpe as ditsy receptionist Carole is an utter joy, and Chris Barrie was right to stick with Gordon Brittas — a man who presents alibis such as "I was at home emptying my turn-ups". "Hold on, didn't I ban you for taking too long to get changed?" he snapped at a feeble old age pensioner who had come to the leisure centre hoping for a swim. "Out, out," he commanded (a sympathetic "Aw" from the audience), and shoved her back outside.

Back with **Savage Skies**, we had lightning as well as tornados — next week, hurricanes! Oh yes, in the search for energy on the box, one need look no further than this. Sometimes I spare a thought for Ian Holm, however, as he solemnly tolls the mortality statistics in that wonderful — well, *tolling* manner of his. "In just 45 minutes, it caused 30 million dollars worth of damage." Forget those ten-year-olds in America who have seen a zillion murders by the age of ten. Think how many people's deaths Ian Holm must have recounted in his excellent voice-over career, doing wars and floods and genocides. I just hope he is a cheerful fellow in his private life.

Last night's *Savage Skies* was, like Gaul, in three parts. First lightning, then people running away from tornados, and then (curiously) people running towards them. Some of these storm chasers had legitimate business for driving their little cars towards thunderheads; others less so. They all looked mad to me. One photographer who took pictures of lightning spent night after night capturing light-streaks on celluloid, and yelling with every flash in the sky "All *right*! Awlll *right*!" Occasionally he exclaimed "Woo!" but then he resumed "All *RIGHT*! Awwllll *right*!" I would not want to be this man, but I envy him one thing: he knows exactly what his last utterance on earth will be. Night after night, he sees it coming. And on his gravestone *they will carve* the words "He said it was all right".

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (43331)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (74602)

9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceefax) (6504447)

9.20 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (2930843)

9.45 Kilroy (s) (8754398)

10.30 Good Morning (92398)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2881263)

12.05pm Turnabout (s) (5204805) **12.30 Going for a Song** (s) (42058)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (84089)

1.30 Regional News and weather (91417535)

1.40 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (94425621)

2.00 Pebble Mill (s) (8110669)

2.40 Snowy River — the McGregor Saga with Joshua Lucas. Adventure and romance set in early 20th-century Australia (r) (s) (1824398)

3.30 Moomin (6521973) **3.55 Bodger and Badger** (s) (5595843) **4.10 Rugrats** (r) (s) (1439945) **4.35 Out of Tune** (Ceefax) (s) (2597992)

5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (3346244) **5.10 Blue Peter** (Ceefax) (s) (1956992)

5.35 Neighbours. Libby learns the meaning of journalistic integrity; and Jen is worried that her brother has outstayed his welcome (Ceefax) (s) (653076)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (911)

6.30 Regional News Magazines (263)

7.00 Les Dawson: The Entertainer. Michael Parkinson introduces a programme celebrating the funniest moments, from 1968 to 1993, in the career of one of Britain's best-loved comedians (r) (Ceefax) (s) (4008)

7.30 Here and Now. Sue Lawley and her team present hard-hitting investigations and topical news features (Ceefax) (s) (447)

8.00 CHOICE **Hearts of Gold** presented by Esther Rantzen and Carol Smillie (Ceefax) (s) (310602)

8.50 Points of View (Ceefax) (s) (396466)

8.55 Party Political Broadcast by the Liberal Democrats (Ceefax) (s) (395737)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (3973)

9.30 Silent Witness. Drama series about a forensic pathologist. A charred body is found in a burnt-out restaurant owned by the father of a Vietnamese student Sam knows. A post-mortem indicates murder. Starring Amanda Burton and John McGlynn (Ceefax) (s) (994718)

10.20 Sportsnight Desmond Lynam with highlights of England's football match against Bulgaria at Wembley; plus highlights of Scotland's game against Australia, and Northern Ireland v Norway. Includes a look ahead to the Grand National (s) (803060)

12.00 FILM: Fever Pitch (1985) starring Ryan O'Neal, Catherine Hicks, Giancarlo Giannini, Bridgette Anderson and Chad Everett. A journalist goes undercover to expose the twilight world of illegal gambling dens. Directed by Richard Brooks (98003)

1.30am Weather (4815157)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am Open University: Maths (9362824) **6.25** Volcanic Iceland (9341331) **6.50** What is Music? (6566089)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (Ceefax and signing) (1468379)

7.30 Stingray (r) (Ceefax) (95195) **8.00 Take Two** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (5174824) **8.25 Wishing** (r) (s) (6605824)

8.40 The Record (s) (6782195)

9.05 Daytime on Two: Mathsphere Special (s) (6594060) **9.25** English Express (s) (6514824) **9.45** Words and Pictures (s) (9857089) **10.00** Playdays (s) (4282911) **10.25** Numbertime (s) (6059440) **10.45** Cats' Eyes (s) (3082447) **11.00** Around Scotland (s) (6780485) **11.20** Music Makers (s) (6573089) **11.40** Study Ireland (s) (4161737) **12.00 TV6** (s) (72669) **12.30pm Working Lunch** (93640) **1.00** The Geography Programme (s) (82970805) **1.20** Zig Zag: Where You Live, Where I Live (s) (82990669) **1.40** Come Outside (s) (94423263) **2.00** Wishing (r) (s) (20288669)

2.10 The Andrew Neil Show (s) (4869843)

3.00 News (Ceefax) (8742909) **3.05 Westminster with Nick Ross** (Ceefax) (s) (6448244) **3.55 News** (Ceefax) (4765534)

4.00 Today's the Day (s) (176) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (260)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. From Hollywood, with Sylvester Stallone and Cindy Crawford (Ceefax) (s) (3546176)

5.40 A Week to Remember (545331)

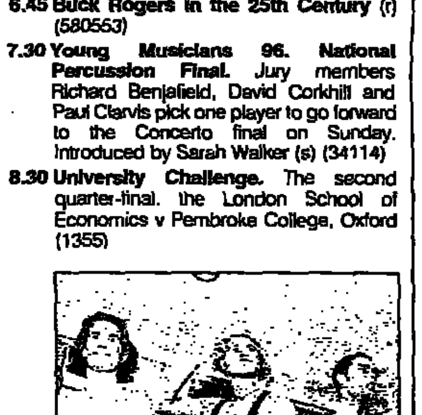
5.50 More Secret Gardens: Sunnybank Road, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham. Chris and Margaret Jones have created a special garden in only ten years (719992)

6.00 Star Trek: the Next Generation (Ceefax) (s) (442534)

6.45 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century (r) (580553)

7.30 Young Musicians 96. National Percussion Final. Jury members Richard Benjafield, David Corkhill and Paul Clarvis pick one player to go forward to the Concerto final on Sunday. Introduced by Sarah Walker (s) (34114)

8.30 University Challenge. The second quarter-final, the London School of Economics v Pembroke College, Oxford (1355)



Bodies beautiful (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Modern Times: Beautiful Men** (Ceefax) (s) (519992)

9.50 CHOICE **A Man's World: the Father.** (Ceefax) (s) (420718)

10.30 Party Political Broadcast by the Liberal Democrats (Ceefax) (s) (646176)

10.35 Newsnight (Ceefax) (375089)

11.15 Murder One: Chapter Four (r) (Ceefax) (s) (177534) **WALES: 11.15** Wales 2006 — the Agenda (177534)

12.05am The Midnight Hour (s) (5508003)

12.30-7.15 The Learning Zone

CHOICE

Hearts of Gold
BBC1, 8.00pm

The content, as always, is fine and admirable. Ordinary people who have displayed extraordinary courage deserve to be feted on television. The reservation is whether this schmaltzy showbusiness format is the right way to do it. Kicking off the new series are Alan Sharpe and John Piff, the British lorry drivers who risked their own lives to rescue three people from a blazing petrol station in Belgium. Their bravery was truly heroic, but they are modest men and clearly upset by the fuss. Suddenly confronting them with the three survivors releases emotions that might better be reserved for a more private occasion. Thankfully less mawkish are salutes to a woman who raises funds for a little-publicised disease and an off-duty nurse who saved a young road accident victim.

Travelog
Channel 4, 8.30pm

Pete McCarthy rounds off the current series by visiting Laos. If he is less jocular than usual, one of the poorest countries in the world is not the best venue to make jokes about. Nor is it tasteful to be flippant about a nation on which the United States dropped more bombs during the Vietnam conflict than it dropped in the whole of the Second World War. McCarthy does not even try. On the contrary, he says it is hard not to feel ashamed. But this is no party political broadcast. McCarthy has done his homework on Laotian history and unravels an intriguing cultural mix of French colonialism, Buddhism, Marxism and Pepsi-Cola. His nightmare is that a traditional and unsullied society will go the same tasteless way as neighbouring Thailand.

Modern Times: Beautiful Men
BBC2, 9.00pm

The Miss World contest may have been politically incorrect but at the peak of its popularity 27 million people watched it. But first the BBC, and then ITV, decided the show was degrading to women. The Miss World organisers, Eric and Julia Morley, were undaunted. Last year they started a beauty contest for men. Helena Appio's skittish film follows some of the lads hoping to become Mr UK and, perhaps, Mr World. The heats take place in nightclubs before audiences of screaming girls. Asked about his hobbies, Damon, a 24-year-old builder replies: "Drinking, mainly." Miss World veterans, such as compere Judith Chalmers and judge Michael Winner, are invited to describe the man of the 1990s. They struggle. One Miss World married Bruce Forsyth. Phil, voted Mr Essex, and Andy, alias Mr Coventry, must hope for other spin-offs.

A Man's World: The Father
BBC2, 9.50pm

In the first half of the 20th century the man's role was to go out to work leaving his wife to bring up the children. Fathers who changed nappies or pushed prams would be accused of being hen-pecked and of surrendering some of their manliness. That, at least, was the norm but it was often challenged. As well as other moments of tenderness, a Welshman remembers singing his small daughter to sleep with, of all things, *The Red Flag*. After the war, as one of those splendidly stilted Ministry of Information films shows, the Government actually promoted the idea of fatherhood classes. When children starting growing up, it was the father's job to prepare them for the harsh world outside. Working-class children were taught to be streetwise, while middle-class fathers sent their sons to boarding schools to toughen them up.

Peter Waymark

[illegible]

6.00am GMTV (9908224)

9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (2915534)

9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (4269060)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (8471973)

10.35 This Morning. Magazine (98430447)

12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (2887447)

12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (7664114)

12.55 Shortland Street (s) (7649805) **1.25 Coronation Street** (r) (Teletext) (7271076) **2.00 Home and Away** (Teletext) (s) (30513089) **2.25 Chain Letters** (Teletext) (s) (30525824) **2.50 Vanessa** (Teletext) (s) (4111621)

3.20 News headlines (Teletext) (4247599)

3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (9192440)

3.30 Alphabet Castle (r) (s) (5587824) **3.40 Wizadora** (r) (s) (2592379) **3.50 Twinkle the Dream Being** (s) (2581263) **4.00 Garfield and Friends** (9734517) **4.20 How 2** (r) (Teletext) (5767718) **4.40 Spellbinder** (Teletext) (1310843)

5.10 A Country Practice (s) (9483195)

5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (288534)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (s) (463440)

6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (264843)

7.00 Wish You Were Here . . ? Judith Chalmers cruises down the Nile to Karnak, John Carter visits Hong Kong, and Anna Walker has a murder weekend in Harrogate (Teletext) (s) (9176)

7.30 Coronation Street. Sally is delighted by the turn of events (Teletext) (843)

Shirley Bassey entertains (8.00pm)

8.00 A Royal Gala. In celebration of the 10th anniversary of The Prince's Youth Business Trust, Sir David Frost and Joanna Lumley present a star-spangled evening at the Albert Hall in the presence of the Prince of Wales. Celebrities taking part include Shirley Bassey, Eric Clapton, Barry Manilow, Cannon & Ball and the Chinese State Circus (s) (8832)

10.00 Party Political Broadcast by the Liberal Democrats (731060)

10.05 News and weather (Teletext) (428824)

10.35 Regional News (398027)

10.45 FILM: The Haunted (1991) starring Sally Kirkland, Jeffrey DeMunn and Louise Latham. A Pennsylvanian family requests the combined services of both the Church and parapsychology to rid their home of demonic forces. Directed by Robert Mandel (Teletext) (s) (41745843)

12.25 God's Gift (4523664)

1.25 Dear Nick (4696664)

2.25 Bushell on the Box (r) (s) (4682954)

2.55 Murder, She Wrote (r) (2206848)

3.50 Coach (s) (18016577)

4.15 Nite Bites 4 (86729867)

4.30 The Time . . . the Place (r) (s) (89683)

5.00 Cover Story (r) (s) (64886)

5.30 Morning News (59867)

[illegible]

As HTV WEST except:

6.25pm-7.00 Wales Tonight (264843)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

12.55 Coronation Street (7649805)

1.25-1.55 Chain Letters. Word game with cash prizes, presented by Vince Henderson (82606468)

1.55 Home and Away (42006331)

2.25 Vanessa A studio discussion on a woman's topic, chaired by Vanessa Feltz (30516176)

2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (3068843)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9483195)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (92535)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:

12.55 Home and Away (7649805)

1.25 Chain Letters (82606468)

1.55 A Country Practice (94439824)

2.20 Vanessa (30517805)

2.50-3.20 Our House (4111621)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9483195)

6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (264843)

12.30am God's Gift (85954)

1.30 Dear Nick (99664)

2.30 The Good Sex Guide... Late (3929193)

3.25 Jones and Jury. A woman sues the father of one of her children after she is assaulted (97042867)

3.50 Jobfinder (5630374)

5.20 Asian Eye (8705461)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:

12.55pm Chain Letters (7649805)

1.25 Home and Away (82606468)

1.55 A Country Practice (94439824)

2.20 Vanessa (30517805)

2.50-3.20 The Country Set (4111621)

5.10 Home and Away (9483195)

5.37-5.40 Three Minutes - Freescreen (701973)

6.00 Meridian Tonight (379)

6.30-7.00 Doing It Up (331)

5.00am Freescreen (64886)

S4C

Starts: 6.35 Sharky and George (6563992) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (90640) **9.00 Fifteen to One** (47973) **9.30 Ysgolion: Living and Growing** (9847602) **9.45 Book Box** (9875485) **10.00 Stage Two Science** (1904391) **10.15 The French Programme** (1203553) **10.35 Irish Scientists** (8217242) **10.55 Film and Video Showcase** (3091195) **11.07 Schools at Work** (6817176) **11.15 The Mix** (6570992) **11.30 Rat-a-Tat-Tat** (4176669) **11.45 First Edition** (4164824) **12.00 House to House** (67737) **12.30pm Wowser** (95008) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (89517) **1.30 A French Affair** (70992) **2.30 Channel 4 Racing From the Dubai World Cup** (14176) **3.30 Bush Tucker Man** (737) **4.00 Jimmy's** (244) **4.30 Motormania** (756) **5.00 5 Pump: Celfagati** (1324008) **5.15 5 Pump: Ffell** (3358089) **5.30 Countdown** (468) **6.00 Newyddion** (455282) **6.15 Heno** (980379) **7.00 Pobol Y Cwm** (377350) **7.25 Bubble Gum** (542553) **8.00 Gwyn Ai Fyd: Sri Lanka** (6466) **8.30 Darllediad Gwleidyddol** (489114) **8.35 Newyddion** (393718) **9.05 Encounters: Mad Dogs and Englishwomen** (422992) **10.05 Brookside** (426466) **10.35 E.R.** (843805) **11.30 Cybill** (59805) **12.00am NBA XXL** (42664) **2.00 Close**

[illegible]

6.35am Sharky and George (r) (6563992)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (90640)

9.00 Fifteen to One (r) (Teletext) (s) (47973)

9.30 Schools: Living & Growing (9847602) **9.45 Book Box** (9875485) **10.00 Stage Two Science** (1904391) **10.15 The French Programme** (1203553) **10.35 Irish Scientists & Inventors** (8217242) **10.55 Film and Video Showcase** (3091195) **11.07 Schools at Work** (6817176) **11.15 The Mix** (6570992) **11.30 Rat-A-Tat-Tat** (4176669) **11.45 First Edition** (4164824)

12.00 House to House (67737) **12.30pm Sesame Street** (79263) **1.30 Madeline** (s) (42029282) **1.55 A Child's Dream** (40501992)

2.00 Australia Wild (r) (Teletext) (8602)

2.30 Channel 4 Racing from the Dubai World Cup (s) (14176)

3.30 Bush Tucker Man (r) (Teletext) (737)

4.00 Jimmy's (r) (Teletext) (s) (244) **4.30 Countdown** (Teletext) (s) (756) **5.00 Ricki Lake** (Teletext) (s) (4794981)

5.45 Terrytoons (553350)

6.00 Blossom (r) (Teletext) (s) (263422)

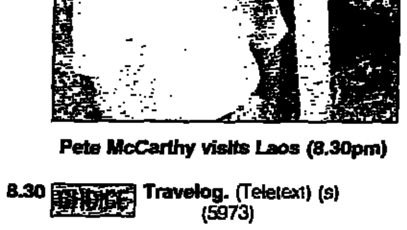
6.25 Home Improvement. American sit-com (Teletext) (s) (613783)

6.55 Murun Buchstansangur (842089)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (399398)

7.55 The Slot (692331)

8.00 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (6466)



Pete McCarthy visits Laos (8.30pm)

8.30 CHOICE **Travelog.** (Teletext) (s) (5973)

9.00 Dispatches. The story of the cardiac surgeons who continued to perform open-heart surgery on small babies and infants in spite of five years of warnings that the mortality rates of their young patients were many times higher than the national average. (Teletext) (893466)

10.00 ER. Greene receives very bad news from both his wife and the hospital (Teletext) (s) (7669)

11.00 Friends (r) (Teletext) (s) (735534)

11.25 The Long Johns. George Parr, the senior political adviser at No 10, explains the Government's policy on asylum and immigration. With John Bird and John Fortune (Teletext) (s) (537089)

11.40 Cheers. Part one of a story in which Carla falls head-over-heels for the Boston Bruins' goalie (r) (Teletext) (59805)

12.15am NBA XXI. San Antonio Spurs at the Indiana Pacers (s) (42664)

2.15 FILM: Big Trouble (1984) starring Alan Arkin, Peter Falk and Valerie Curtin. A comedy about an insurance salesman, who concocts a $5 million fraud with an accomplice to pay for his sons' education. Directed by John Cassavetes (871157). Ends at **3.35am**

4.00 Schools: Geographical Eye Over Asia (91003). Ends at **5.00**

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY ONE

7.00am Boiled Egg and Soldiers (99718) **8.30** Press Your Luck (5777398) **8.50** Love Connection (4812485) **9.20** Court TV (6085447) **9.50** The Oprah Winfrey Show (1522756) **10.40** Jeopardy! (6889466) **11.10** Sally Jessy Raphael (2624737) **12.00** Beechy (27621) **1.00pm** Hotel (43689) **2.00** Geraldo (14756) **3.00** Court TV (8843) **3.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (5685244) **4.15** Undun (1567737) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (9195) **6.00** The Simpsons (6114) **6.30** Jeopardy! (7466) **7.00** LAPD (8404) **7.30** M*A*S*H (6350) **8.00** Space: Above and Beyond (73824) **9.00** The Outer Limits (53060) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (63447) **11.00** Melrose Place (30282) **12.00** Late Show with David Letterman (4395585) **12.45am** The Untouchables (4237428) **1.30** Daddy Dearest (98954) **2.00-7.00** Hit Mix (1998645)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.

9.30am Sky Destinations (35640) (11669) **10.30** ABC Nightline (94805) **1.30pm** CBS News This Morning (45027) **2.30** Parliament Live (3027) **3.30** Parliament Live (5244) **5.00** Live at Five (7737) **6.30** Tonight with Adam Boulton (5008) **7.30** Sportsline (4992) **8.30** Newsmaker (6621) **11.30** CBS Evening News (83883) **12.30am** ABC World News Tonight (43732) **1.30** Tonight with Adam Boulton Replay (96596) **2.30** Newsmaker (47206) **3.30** Parliament Replay (61886) **4.30** CBS Evening News (60683) **5.30-6.00** ABC World News Tonight

SKY MOVIES

6.00am The Big Parade of Comedy (1964) (65089) **8.00 Kiss Me Kate (1953)** (57463) **10.00 Sweet Talker (1990)** (19602) **12.00 Petticoat Pirates (1961)** (11756) **1.30pm Proudheart (1993)** (7798466) **2.20 The Viking Queen (1967)** (102466) **4.00 Mother's Day on Walton's Mountain (1982)** (4027) **6.00 Sweet Talker (1990)** (22350) **7.30 Et Review** (8718) **8.00 White Mile (1994)** (79008) **10.00 True Lies (1994)** (92205892) **12.20am Animal Instincts 2 (1993)** (772645) **2.00 Roseanne and Tom: A Hollywood Marriage (1994)** (23645) **3.30 My Boyfriend's Back (1993)** (2510567) **4.55-6.00 Proudheart (1993)** (3082935)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00 West Point Story (1950) (2756) **6.00 Stalag 17 (1953)** (49805) **8.00 Guns at Batasi (1964)** (44350) **10.00 Full Metal Jacket (1987)** (23379) **12.00 Frances (1982)** (41456867) **2.20-3.50 The Lovers! (1972)** (8515549)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am The Littlest Hobo (1958) (59389534) **7.45 The Magic Adventure (1973)** (3644447) **9.00 Black Island (1979)** (38911) **10.00 The Pot Carriers (1962)** (17244) **12.00 Tekwar: Teklords (1994)** (86973) **2.00pm West of Zanzibar (1954)** (390534) **3.45 The Magic Adventure (1973)** (5758621) **5.00 Black Island (1979)** (2805) **6.00 Big Dreams and Broken Hearts: The Dottie West Story (1993)** (65805) **8.00 Tekwar: Teklords (1994)** (60350) **10.00 The Burning Season (1994)** (20203466) **12.05am Hear No Evil (1993)** (782022) **1.45 Born to Run (1993)** (639312) **3.25-5.00 The Last Outlaw (1993)** (91308954)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.

6.00am Under the Umbrella Tree (70967737) **6.30** Fraggle Rock (60912911) **7.00** Winnie the Pooh (53536640) **7.30** Ducktales (53522447) **8.00** Chip 'n' Dale (91474379) **8.30** Adventures in Wonderland (91466350) **9.00** Walt Disney Presents (70976485) **10.00** Under the Umbrella Tree (60903263) **10.30** Fraggle Rock (91486114) **11.00** Muppet Babies (54696447) **11.30** Pooh Corner (54697176) **12.00** Quack Attack (91477466) **12.30pm** Dumbo's Circus (24246350) **1.00** Adventures in Wonderland (53535911) **1.30** FILM: The White Tower (90504008) **3.05** Railway Dragon (16572718) **3.30** Winnie the Pooh (88632027) **4.00** Quack Attack (88611534) **4.30** Ducktales (88617718) **5.00** Chip 'n' Dale (20151640) **5.30** Danger Bay (88631398) **6.00** Tarzan (88621911) **6.30** Dinosaurs (88612263) **7.00** Sinbad (20148176) **7.00** Faerie Tale Theatre (11888553) **8.30-10.00** FILM: Every Girl Should Be Married (66182973)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Tennis (26621) **8.30** Football (55485) **9.30** Snooker (15440) **11.00** Boxing (57973) **12.00** Eurofun (80737) **12.30pm** Basketball (18008) **1.00** Tennis (32176) **3.00** Equestrianism (8868391) **3.55** News (4576718) **4.00** Formula 1 (7621) **4.30** Motors (3278945) **5.55** News (910669) **6.00** Live Tennis (38319) **8.00** Boxing (88878) **9.00** Football (127060) **9.50** News (9964176) **11.00** Tennis (81756) **11.30-12.30am** Equestrianism (71824)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Sky Sports Centre (67350) **7.30** Racing News (86485) **8.00** World Wrestling Federation Mania (63718) **9.00** Aerobics Oz Style (75805) **9.30** World of Speed and Beauty (12824) **10.00** World Wide Rugby (92060) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (95669) **12.30pm** Ice Hockey (544756) **3.00** Asian Football Show (86824) **4.00** PFA Awards (65331) **5.00** World Wrestling Federation Superstars (5911) **6.00** Sky Sports Centre (9603) **6.30** Grass Roots Rugby (3282) **7.00** Ford Escort International Football England v Bulgaria (12873756) **10.15** Sky Sports Centre (415992) **10.45** Inside the PGA Tour (414263) **11.15** Grass Roots Rugby (411176) **11.45** Skill Sailing (410447) **12.15am** Ford Escort International Football (294515) **2.15-2.45** Sky Sports Centre (856935)

SKY SPORTS GOLD

10.00pm World Cup Hall of Fame: Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (2162379) **10.30** World Cup Classics: England v Cameroon 1990 (2798669) **12.00-1.00** Arnold Palmer Documentary (8440954)

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

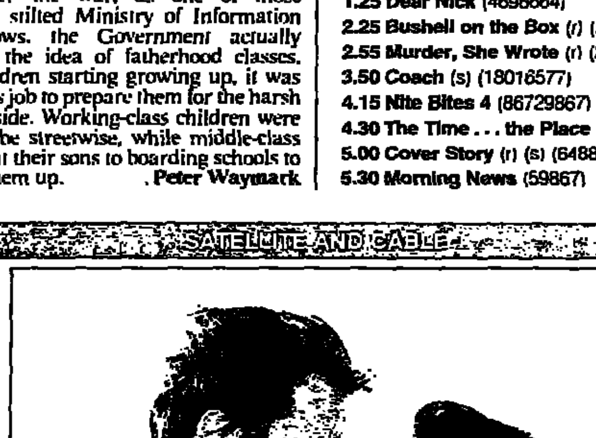
6.15am Benny Hinn **6.45** Good Morning Europe **4.00** Thought for the Day **4.05** Worship **4.15** Kidz TV **4.30** Highway to Heaven **5.00** Kenneth & Gloria Copeland **5.30** Christian Music TV **5.45** Carman Times Two

SKY SOAP

7.00am Guiding Light (5712992) **7.55** As the World Turns (6618824) **8.50** Peyton Place (6968973) **9.20** Days of Our Lives (7020992) **10.10-11.00** Another World (6763485)

SKY TRAVEL

11.00am Globetrotter (4058466) **11.30** Destinations (4059195) **12.00** Alaska (2154350) **12.30pm** The Real Food of China (9514466) **1.00** Getaway (1653447) **1.30** Around the World (9513737) **2.00** Sports Vacations (4041805) **2.30** Discover Your World (9193440) **3.00** Globetrotter (4053640) **3.30** Around the World (7884002) **3.55-4.00** Holiday Shop (46636640)



Schwarzenegger and Curtis in *True Lies* (Sky Movies, 10.00pm)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Hitler's Navy (4049718) **5.00-7.00** Biography Special (2175843)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

7.00pm Battlestar Galactica (3349398) **7.55** FILM: Back to the Future Part II (54319485) **10.00** Close (4119282) **1.00** Battlestar Galactica (7394393) **2.00-4.00** FILM: Back to the Future Part III (2538393)

TLC

9.00am Painting (7948089) **9.30** Grow Your Own (2467331) **10.00** Two's Country (3591553) **10.30** Our House (7937973) **11.00** Room Service (2594718) **11.30** Running Repairs (2595447) **12.00** Julia Child (7951553) **12.30pm** Frugal Gourmet (2478447) **1.00** Yan Can Cook (3206878) **1.30** Furniture (2477718) **2.00** Dunbar (4387363) **2.30** Stars and Gardens (0699114) **3.00** Two's Country (4306398) **3.30-4.00** This Old House (6661331)

UK GOLD

7.00am Angels (9017305) **7.30** Neighbours (1501440) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (7950824) **8.30** EastEnders (7959195) **9.00** The Bill (7940447) **9.30** The Sullivans (2476089) **10.00** All Creatures Great and Small (5101404) **11.00** Bullseye (2596176) **11.30** Odd One Out (2597805) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (7953911) **12.30pm** Neighbours (2470805) **1.00** EastEnders (3928824) **1.35** Sykes (1723689) **2.15** Home James (1433196) **2.50** Sorry! (7050602) **3.30** The Bill (6670089) **4.00** Casualty (2510756) **5.00** Every Second Counts (3092114) **5.45** 'Allo 'Allo! (1295331) **6.25** EastEnders (6129244) **7.00** Morecambe and Wise (9752602) **8.00** Bullseye (4309485) **8.30** Sorry! (4388992) **9.00** Capital City (9781114) **10.00** The Bill (1288008) **10.35** The Best of Top of the Pops (7340242) **11.30** Pulaski (8840263) **12.30am** FILM: Passion (66062732) **1.55-3.00** Shopping at Night (34127157)

TCC

6.00am Amazing Live Sea Monkeys (23027) **6.30** Pugwall (30701) **7.00** Ready or Not (40718) **7.30** California Dreams (52553) **8.00** Sweet Valley High (12350) **8.30** Baby Follies (4749027) **8.45** Dinobabies (4728534) **9.05** Victor and Maria (5121485) **9.20** Rosie and Jim (5193602) **9.40** Bump the Elephant (8044737) **9.50** The Clangers (8033621) **10.00** Tiny and Crew (5477398) **10.20** The Adventures of Spot (8738553) **10.30** Gran (8729027) **10.40** 10 + 2 (3788319) **11.00** Sesame Street (38973) **12.00** Barney and Friends (1718992) **12.35pm** Victor and Maria (38946114) **12.50** Rosie and Jim (3125466) **1.10** Bump the Elephant (37970466) **1.20** Teddy Trucks (37969350) **1.30** Tiny and Crew (79161398) **1.50** The Adventures of Spot (28044447) **2.00** Gran (16899756) **2.10** 10 + 2 (93132185) **2.30** Jim Henson's Animal Show (2331) **3.00** Oscar's Orchestra (4114) **3.30** The New Pink Panther Show (4176) **4.00** California Dreams (6911) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (2195)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Henry's Cat (4287089) **6.15** Blue (256176) **6.45** Toucan Tecs (8556008) **7.00** Batfink (3488909) **7.05** Grimmy (4596176) **7.45** Rugrats/Doug (244331) **8.15** Aaah! Real Monsters (4930602) **8.30** Rocko (82195) **9.00** Alvin (73447) **9.30** Playhouse (10466) **10.00** Banana Sandwich (73911) **11.00** Children's BBC on Nickelodeon (60447) **12.00** Magic School Bus (86911) **12.30pm** Grimmy (14282) **1.00** Global Guts (64263) **1.30** Visionaries (13553) **2.00** Dungeons and Dragons (58114) **3.00** The Littlest Pet Shop (9973) **3.30** Mighty Max (1060) **4.00** Santa Bugito (9045) **4.30** Rugrats and Doug (6379) **5.00** Sister Sister (1718) **5.30** Wishbone (9701) **6.00** Ren and Stimpy (7244) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (1824)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Time Travellers (6680466) **4.30** Charlie Bravo (6679350) **5.00** Treasure Hunters (4301843) **5.30** Terra X (6660602) **6.00** Voyager (6690843) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (5512224) **7.30** Arthur C Clarke's Mysterious Universe (6687379) **8.00** Arthur C Clarke's Mysterious Universe (4307027) **8.30** Disasters (4386534) **9.00** Warriors (9789756) **10.00** Classic Wheels (9782843) **11.00-12.00** Deep Probe Expeditions (6551945)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Witness for the Prosecution (3508843) **2.00pm** Honey West (4381089) **2.30** Garry Shandling (6686640) **3.00** Danger Man (2593089) **4.00** FILM: Only Two Can Play (4397640) **6.00** The Adventures of Robin Hood (6694669) **6.30** UFO (7617058) **7.30** Mammal (3806485) **9.00** The Gossip Show (2501008) **9.30** Weekly World News (2485737) **10.00-12.00** FILM: Stay Hungry (2585060)

PARAMOUNT

7.00am Benson (4292) **7.30** Family Ties (7008) **8.00** Entertainment (4682) **8.30** Wings (9737) **9.00** Soap (92485) **9.30** Laverne and Shirley (75878) **10.00** Entertainment (87640) **10.30** Frontline (63060) **11.00** Nightstand (74640) **12.00** The Clinic (36954) **12.30** The Odd Couple (86848) **1.00** Wings (92206) **1.30** Soap (32312) **2.00** Laverne and Shirley (36225) **2.30** Entertainment (15732) **3.00** Frontline (95670) **3.30-4.00** The Clinic (39312)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (9173195) **7.00** Kilroy (1675553) **8.00** Esther (8063027) **8.30** Gardeners' World (8062398) **9.00** Food and Drink (9522534) **9.35** Kate and Allie (5593008) **10.05** Jerry Springer (6126008) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (8700737) **11.55** Brookside (1935674) **12.30pm** Dangerous Women (7471398) **1.25** Crosswits (7870379) **2.00** Agony Hour (5180634) **3.00** Live at Three (4524379) **4.00** Infatuation UK (4997244) **4.30** Crosswits (6813391) **5.05** Lingo (93930534) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (4917008) **6.00** Bewitched (4907621) **6.30** Brookside (6549911) **7.05** Delia Smith (9027263) **7.40** The Joker's Wild (4086553) **8.05** The Young and the Restless (1231089) **9.00** Cagney and Lacey (6160621) **10.00** Charlie's Angels (6170008) **11.00-12.00** The Erogenous Zone (4294373)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Teen Win, Lose or Draw (6331) **5.30** Night Hood (910621) **5.55** Batman (809805) **6.30** Catchphrase (7640) **7.00** Roll with It! (6195) **7.30** Fall Guy (36534) **8.30** Home to Roost (4350) **9.00** Ruth Rendell Mystery: Means of Evil (33244) **10.00** Treasure Hunt (36331) **11.00** Sirens (59466) **12.00** Fall Guy (79770) **1.00am** Batman (21732) **1.30** GP (85428) **2.00** The Black Stallion (72041) **2.30** African Skies (68848) **3.00** GP (41596) **3.30** The Black Stallion (82428) **4.00** African Skies (63393) **4.30-5.00** Teen Win, Lose or Draw (42225)

MTV

7.30am Long Form (54911) **8.00** Morning Mix (405553) **11.00** European Top 20 Countdown (30331) **12.00** Greatest Hits (31973) **1.00pm** Music Non-stop (15534) **3.00** Video Juke Box (22640) **4.00** Hanging Out (7060) **6.00** Dial MTV (2718) **6.30** The Real World (6398) **7.00** European Top 20 Countdown (46718) **8.00** Evening Mix (94027) **9.30** Amour (79911) **10.30** The State (93224) **11.00** Unplugged (51824) **12.00** Night Videos (6509490) **5.00-7.30** Morning Mix (64848)

VH-1

7.00am Power Breakfast (1652718) **9.00** Cafe VH-1 (9334682) **12.00** Heart and Soul (9595331) **1.00pm** The Vinyl Years (9511379) **2.00** Ten of the Best (8515195) **3.00** Into the Music (7144737) **6.00** Happy Hour (9524843) **7.00** VH-1 for You (3162602) **8.00** Wednesday Review (4063027) **8.30** VH-1 to 1: Sting (4042534) **9.00** Ten of the Best (3191114) **10.00** The Vinyl Years (3161973) **11.00** Tommy Vance (2981114) **1.00am** Ten of the Best (7396751) **2.00** Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE

Country music from **6am** to **7pm on satellite, 24-hours on cable,** including **5.00pm** Saturday Nite Dance Crunch **6.00-7.00** Big Ticket

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran (52337718) **7.30** Zee Presents (16661602) **9.00** Bengali Serial: Lookochori (84914911) **9.30** Hit The Hit Hai (33706244) **10.00** Urdu Serial: Mandi (52345737) **11.00** Manasi (56722621) **11.30** Urdu FILM: Khuda Gawah (95783843) **2.30pm** Buniyaad (70187282) **3.00** BBCD (11205824) **3.30** Mirza Ghalib (70199027) **4.00** Zee Presents (56713973) **5.00** Zee Zone (11217669) **5.30** Film Deewane (70198398) **6.00** Campus (70188911) **6.30** Zee and U (70179263) **7.00** Flu (11297805) **7.30** Banegi Apni Baat (70175447) **8.00** News (11206553) **8.30** Dastaan (11285060) **9.00-12.00** Hindi FILM: Lamhe (77364669)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.

7.00 The Glass Bottom Boat (1966) (53521718) **9.00 Little Women (1949)** (69641440) **11.15 I Am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang (1932)** (92350534) **12.55 Suzy (1936)** (26259041) **2.45-5.00 The Glass Bottom Boat (1966)** (66797751)

RACING 45
AMERICAN WONDER HORSE MEETS HIS DATE WITH DESTINY

SPORT

TRIATHLON 46
LESSING AND SMITH LEAD CHASE FOR NEW WORLD ORDER

WEDNESDAY MARCH 27 1996

Venables resists clamour for Fowler but gives Ince midfield role

Pride the spur for Ferdinand

By Rob Hughes
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

Ince, who has been recalled to the England team against Bulgaria tonight, lets fly with a volley in training yesterday. Photograph: Steve Morton

IF EVER pride could stir the deeds of a sportsman, it should inspire Les Ferdinand at Wembley Stadium tonight. Having begun the week in the embrace of Pelé, receiving the vote of his fellow professionals as England's footballer of the year, Ferdinand then hit a period of quiet desperation, wondering if the clamour for Robbie Fowler, the irresistible apprentice, would deny him his place in the national side.

It has not. Fowler, 20, is a substitute. Alan Shearer is out with a niggling groin strain, and so, in the words of Terry Venables, the England coach, Ferdinand has been given his chance "to be the main threat" to a Bulgaria side that he rates as the most potent attacking force in the forthcoming European championship.

There are four changes from the last England side, which drew with Portugal in December. Tony Adams, the captain then, is injured, so his armband will be worn by Stuart Pearce, at 33 proving that perseverance is sometimes all on the sporting front. In place of Adams, Gareth Southgate, having been converted from midfield to centre back by Aston Villa, proves that Venables is looking for versatility and intelligence in his ranks. In the midfield, joining Paul Gascoigne as the fulcrum of the team, Paul Ince has his first chance in a year to persuade Venables that he has learnt discipline, both in the personal sense and in terms of holding his position, as the side's anchor. Ince, of Internazionale, is getting to grips with Italian football, despite being sent off against Udinese last Sunday.

McCoist's milestone 43
New look for Ireland 43

With Gascoigne told publicly by Venables that it is time that he paced his game, stopped "chasing the ball" and began using himself to best effect for the team, and Ince instructed to be responsible in harness with him, the wings, that have troubled England for so long, are entrusted to Steve Stone, on the right, and Steve McManaman.

Some maintain that McManaman is at his best for Liverpool in a free role. Both the player and the coach were at pains yesterday to explain that McManaman will start wide on the left, with scope to come infield, to operate effectively in an old-fashioned inside left position. "He's got that licence," Venables said. "If he finds he's getting joy wide out on the left, he should stay there to give the team width, but really I'm asking nothing different to the way he's played recently for Liverpool."

Stone, though he privately hankers for a role infield as well, will do as he has previously done for England to spectacular effect, patrol up and down the right with bulldog tenacity. There may be limitations to Stone's technique, but none at all in terms of his heart and commitment, and, though Venables stresses that the game tonight is preparation for Euro 96, rather than all-important in itself, one can feel around the England camp at Bisham Abbey a rising expectation, a tightening of the competitive morale. The tournament is 11 weeks away, during which time England have just five matches to prepare, and every game where a man is given the shirt is a chance to keep someone else out of contention.

TEAMS

ENGLAND (4-4-1-1): D Seaman (Arsenal) — G Neville (Manchester Utd), S Howey (Newcastle United), G Southgate (Aston Villa), S Pearce (Nottingham Forest, captain) — S Stone (Nottingham Forest), P Gascoigne (Rangers), P Ince (Internazionale), S McManaman (Liverpool) — E Sheringham (Tottenham Hotspur) — L Ferdinand (Newcastle United). Substitutes: R Fowler (Liverpool); remainder to be announced

BULGARIA (probable, 3-5-2): B Mikhailov (Reading) — E Kremenliev (Olympiakos), P Hubchev (Hamburg), T Ivanov (Rapid Vienna) — E Kostadinov (Bayern Munich), I Lechkov (Hamburg), Z Iankov (Uerdingen), I Iordanov (Sporting Lisbon), K Balakov (VfB Stuttgart) — L Penev (Atlético Madrid), H Stoichkov (Parma).

Teddy Sheringham returns to the role linking the midfield and the main striker, in preference to Nick Barmby. With his speed of thought rather than quick movement, Sheringham is becoming the pivotal choice in that vital position.

"It's important for everyone," Ince said yesterday, "important for English football as a whole because of what is coming in the summer. From outside the country, now that I am playing in Italy, I know that technically there are people a lot better than us, but, sometimes, the football over there can be a little slow. We've got great assets, and this is our chance to show them as a team."

Ferdinand: confidence

It is a chance against illustrious opposition. Provided that Bulgaria, the World Cup semi-finalists, are motivated tonight, they will bring technique in the extreme, and sharp, rapacious counter-attacking skills.

Hristo Stoichkov, their captain and catalyst, is like a volcano; one can never be sure whether he will erupt. He possesses the most breathtaking of left-foot skills, yet the potential for disgrace: there is poison in him when aroused, yet so much beauty in the talent that not only he, but also the likes of Emil Kostadinov and Iordan Lechkov, possess.

Ferdinand has the task of trying to upstage them. When he received the plaudits of the Professional Footballers' Association in London on Sunday night, when he hugged Pelé, the greatest player in the game's history, one could see self-esteem rise within him. He has such physical power, the potency that Venables talks about, but also a tendency to under-perform, to become almost shy and introverted and not to utilise his talents fully. Newcastle United have begun to change that, to instil confidence.

In place of Shearer, whose past 18 months and ten games without a goal for England must invite a challenge from someone, Ferdinand has become the right man at the right time, but, even now, he will look over his shoulder, if he is not scoring, and see Fowler, that irrepressible youth.

One senses that all the Artful Dodger of Liverpool is waiting for is half a chance to pick someone else's pocket.

England begin search for coach to replace Illingworth

By Simon Wilde

WHEN he left Lord's yesterday, M. J. K. Smith, the man who would be chairman of England's cricket selectors had not Raymond Illingworth beaten him to the post two years ago, let down his car window to allow a lone photographer to take his picture.

It appeared a vainglorious act, but Smith, who had just come out of a meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) to decide how the England team should be managed, after another winter of woe, had reason to feel satisfied with his afternoon's work.

Smith may have lost his aggressive battle to remove Illingworth as chairman of selectors, but he and Warwickshire, his county, who are in the vanguard of calls for progressive leadership, could yet win the war.

It was decided at Lord's that Illingworth and his selection panel will work until September, when they will choose the winter touring parties, and then be replaced by a new management team, whose structure will be determined by a working party being set up by David Acfield. This is what the progressives wanted.

One of the selectors will be a new appointee, a coach to the England team who effectively succeeds to the position of manager which Illingworth resigned at the weekend, as revealed by *The Times* yesterday. The favourites for the position are David Lloyd, of Lancashire, and John Emburey, who recently signed a four-year contract to coach Northamptonshire.

The problem for any candidate is that he may be wanted by England for the next six months, but not necessarily thereafter, and to take this chance he might have to forfeit a lucrative county career. This is one of the problems facing the TCCB's ten-man executive committee, chaired by Dennis Silk, which discussed a range of potential candidates yesterday and will be talking to some of them shortly.

Time is of the essence, as the TCCB would like selectors in place to choose players for the England A v The Rest fixture at Chelmsford starting on April 20. England's next match is the first one-day international against India, at the Oval on May 23.

The chosen coach will have 12 matches to make his mark with England — three one-day internationals and three Test matches against both India and Pakistan.

Lloyd remains the clear favourite. Most important, he has the support of Michael Atherton, the England captain since 1993, with whom he has worked well at Lancashire. Nor does he have a contract as restrictive as Emburey's. Lloyd made the usual noises yesterday of a man being touted for a big promotion, and certainly did not rule himself out.

The addition of a coach means that the selection panel will now comprise five members: the chairman (Illingworth), the coach, the captain (who will presumably remain Atherton) and two elected selectors.

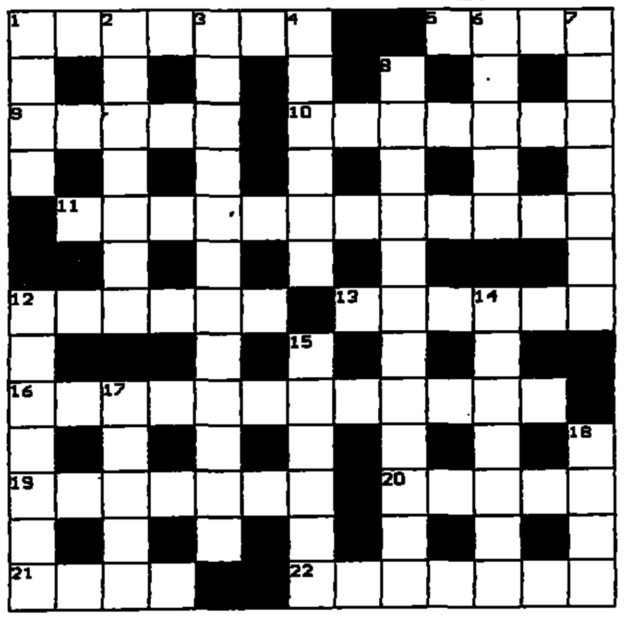
Lloyd: leading candidate

It is already certain that the names of David Graveney and Fred Titmus, who occupied these positions last summer, will be joined by at least one forward-thinking candidate, who will be put up by the progressives.

"The profile being given to the new coach is excellent news," Paul Sheldon, the chief executive of Surrey, who supported Warwickshire's attempted ousting of Illingworth last week, said yesterday.

"The way the board has arranged things leaves open the possibilities of big changes in September. I'm sure David Acfield will canvas opinions widely and if he does we will abide by his findings."

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 740

ACROSS
1 Show with songs (7)
5 Get (the idea): bit of tree (4)
9 Pierre and Marie —, chemists (5)
10 Frozen sweet, eaten from wrapper (4-3)
11 Head waiter (6,6)
12 Quiet and modest (6)
13 Welsh town, has Beacons (6)
16 Notes, not coins (7,5)
19 Drunkenly sentimental (7)
20 Enthusiasm (5)
21 Twilight (4)
22 Fr. scholastic, loved Héloïse (7)

DOWN
1 A lot (4)
2 Hurtful irony (7)
3 Derbys. town: a sofa (12)
4 Minion (6)
6 *Card game, played in drive* (5)
7 (Cause of) technical hitch (7)
8 Native speech (6,6)
12 Traduced (7)
14 London flower-show site (7)
15 List of things to do (6)
17 The XVIIIth was the last (d. 1824) (5)
18 Clamorous; obtrusive (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 739
ACROSS: 7 Omega 8 Bar none 9 Leg-pull 10 Burst 11 Troy 12 Mystique 15 Corniche 16 Waxy 19 Newel 21 Kingdom 22 Tochold 23 Agree

DOWN: 1 Job lot 2 Peignoir 3 Vague 4 Probity 5 Four 6 Seethe 8 Billy the Kid 13 Quandary 14 Killjoy 15 Canute 17 Yomped 18 Anzac 20 Whet

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 735
In association with *BRITISH MIDLAND*
ACROSS: 4 Tepid 7 Honolulu 8 Vice 9 Emporium 10 Beadle 13 Rigour 14 Desist 15 Flashy 18 Barbican 19 Tarn 20 Uxorious 21 Sinus.

DOWN: 1 Choice 2 Unbend 3 Fleece 4 Tutorial 5 Perilous 6 Dormer 11 Assyrian 12 Luscious 14 Debris 15 Finery 16 Author 17 Harass

1st PRIZE of a return ticket travelling economy class to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic or international network is J Goldswain, Lytham, Lancashire.

2nd PRIZE of a return ticket to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND'S domestic network is D G Donnison, Colchester, Essex. All flights subject to availability.

Foster's record pay day

MARK FOSTER, one of the Great Britain swimming team's best hopes for a gold medal at the Olympic Games this summer, broke the world 50 metres butterfly long-course record and picked up a £10,000 bonus at the Empire pool in Cardiff last night.

Foster, 25, who will swim the 50 metres freestyle in Atlanta, added the long-course butterfly best to his world short-course mark of 23.45sec.

With James Hickman and Jamie Salter, his Olympic team-mates, to urge him on, Foster, who is based in the Cardiff, lowered the world record for one length from 24.27sec to 24.07sec.

"I am very pleased: I seemed to be over-revving a bit, but I had a lot of confidence," Foster said. "I felt better tonight than I did at the Olympic trials at the weekend, and I just wish I had been going for the world record in the 50-metre freestyle.

"This will give me a lot of confidence for the Olympics and I will definitely be going for gold in the 50 freestyle."

Foster's sponsors had put together a cash and car incentive package worth £10,000 for the record attempt.

Halifax borrow something blue for brave new world

Christopher Irvine on the teams setting the trend in rugby league

Got a rugby league team? Get a moniker. Halifax, affectionately known as the Thrum Hallers for 101 years at their Gibbet Street home, are now, officially, Halifax Blue Sox. The new name caused a collective raising of eyebrows in the West Yorkshire town yesterday.

The inspiration comes from the Chicago White Sox and Boston Red Sox. Not that there is much interest in baseball in Halifax, apart from those supporters who would raise a baseball bat to the people whose idea it was. Local opinion is divided between the name being the height of fashion and the height of absurdity. Rather than baseball caps and tops, most players wore club blazer and tie for the announcement. "It will settle down and sink in with supporters," Steve Simms, the Blue Sox coach, said. "After a little while, it does get a bit catchy."

The opening Super League programme this weekend is a sign of changing times, with the Broncos (London) hoping to buck the Blue Sox, the Bulls (Bradford) to gore the Tigers (Castleford) and the Bears (Oldham) to maul Wigan — one of a minority of clubs without a nickname.

Highfield, the sport's perennial losers, reinvented themselves as the Prescot Panthers this week. The trend in the lower divisions has also been taken up by Huddersfield, Salford, Batley, Chorley, Doncaster, Hunslet, Swinton, Leigh and Barrow — the

BLUE SOX
HALIFAX
R.L.F.C.

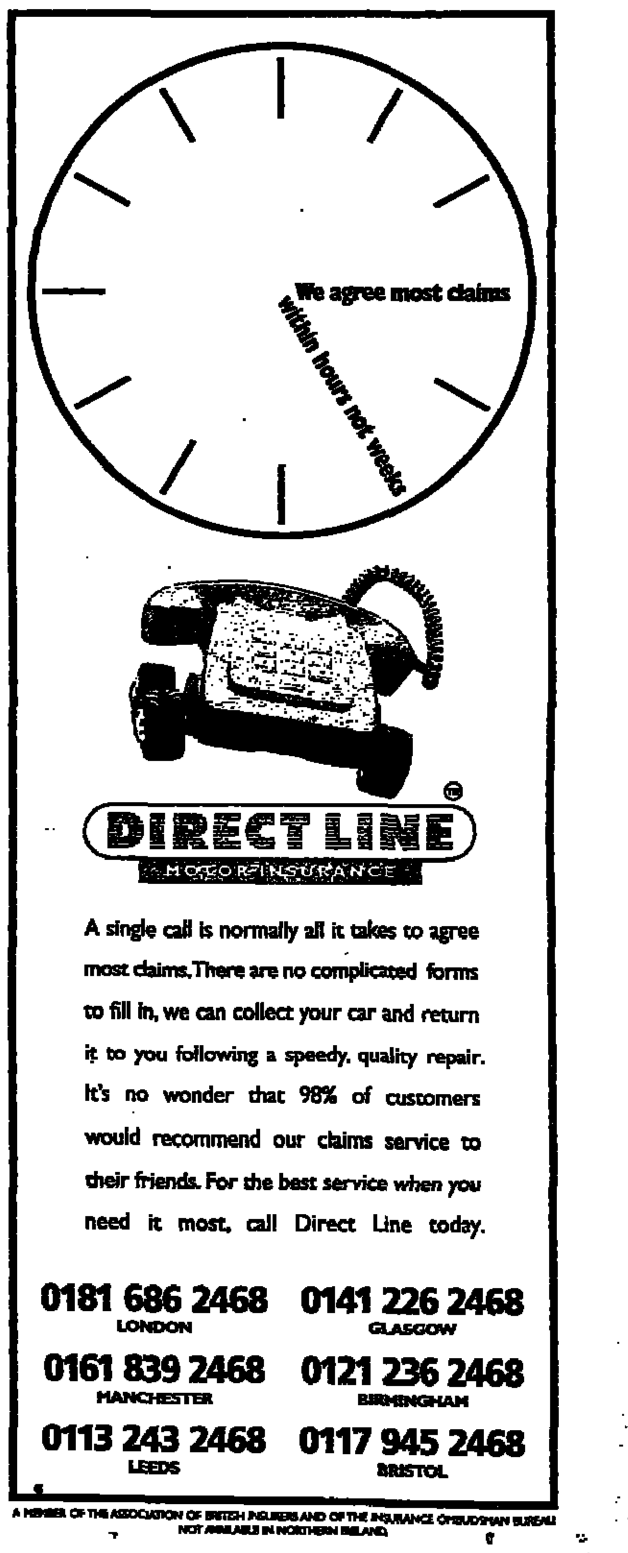
Giants, Reds, Bulldogs, Chieftains, Dragons, Hawks, Lions, Centurions and Braves, respectively.

Keighley pioneered the American way with adoption of the Cougars' emblem five years ago. Crowds there have increased ten-fold. Clubs that scoffed at Keighley's marketing ploy are now scrambling for exclusive use of a variety of animals and demonised creatures. All these were rejected by Halifax in settling on Blue Sox, the most radical of the new identities.

The anguished question of club mergers was one of the reasons. Nigel Wood, the Halifax chief executive, said: "Too few spectators are still being sought by too many Super League clubs. It doesn't take a wise man from China to work out four in West Yorkshire is an over-representation. To compete effectively and stand alone we had to do something positive to broaden our appeal.

"We could have gone for a macho and aggressive name, but the game itself is strong and hard enough without reinforcing traditional images and preconceptions."

To accommodate the new Blue Sox supporters that it hopes to attract, the club also announced a £5 million ground redevelopment. On match days, rugby league will be part of an overall entertainment package. Supporters carrying baseball bats, however, can expect to have them confiscated.



DIRECT LINE
MOTOR INSURANCE

A single call is normally all it takes to agree most claims. There are no complicated forms to fill in, we can collect your car and return it to you following a speedy, quality repair. It's no wonder that 98% of customers would recommend our claims service to their friends. For the best service when you need it most, call Direct Line today.

0181 686 2468 LONDON
0141 226 2468 GLASGOW
0161 839 2468 MANCHESTER
0121 236 2468 BIRMINGHAM
0113 243 2468 LEEDS
0117 945 2468 BRISTOL

A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH INSURERS AND OF THE INSURANCE OMBUDSMAN BUREAU
NOT AVAILABLE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

مكبرة من الأصل